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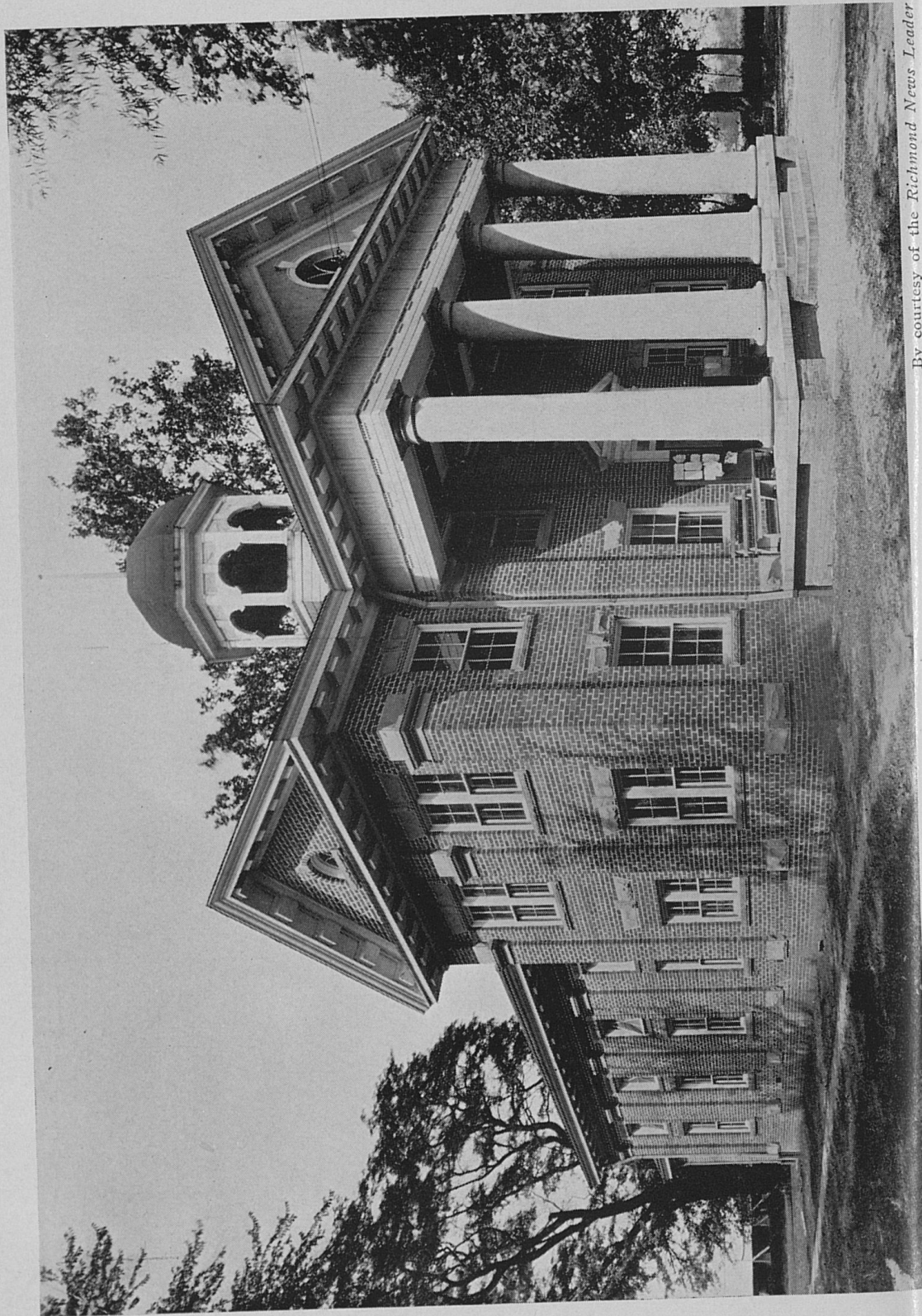
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INVENTORY
of the
COUNTY ARCHIVES
of
VIRGINIA



No. 21
CHESTERFIELD COUNTY

HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION



By courtesy of the *Richmond News Leader*

Inventory of the County Archives of Virginia

Prepared by

THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
DIVISION OF WOMEN'S AND PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

No. 21. Chesterfield County (Chesterfield Court House)

Charlottesville, Virginia
The University of Virginia
August 1938

THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

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FOREWORD

The Inventory of County Archives of Virginia is one of a number of bibliographies of historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on the Historical Records Survey of the Works Progress Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the archives of Chesterfield County, is number 21 of the Virginia series.

The Historical Records Survey was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and provide invaluable data for students of political, economic, and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the county, and also the needs of lawyers, business men and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by the Historical Records Survey attempt to do more than give merely a list of records—they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of the Historical Records Survey, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their coöperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey was organized and has been directed by Luther H. Evans, and operates as a nation-wide project in the Division of Women's and Professional Projects, of which Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward, Assistant Administrator, is in charge.

HARRY L. HOPKINS,
Administrator.

FOREWORD

The purpose of this book is to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of the art in the field of artificial intelligence. It is intended for use as a textbook for students and as a reference for researchers and practitioners.

The book is organized into three main parts. The first part covers the foundations of artificial intelligence, including the history of the field and the basic concepts of logic, sets, and graphs.

The second part covers the major areas of artificial intelligence, including natural language processing, computer vision, and robotics. The third part covers the applications of artificial intelligence, including expert systems and artificial neural networks.

The book is written in a clear and concise style, and it includes numerous examples and exercises to help the reader understand the concepts. It is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the field of artificial intelligence.

The author would like to thank the following people for their help and support during the writing of this book: [names]

The author would also like to thank the following people for their help and support during the writing of this book: [names]

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PREFACE

The Historical Records Survey, a project of the Division of Women's and Professional Projects of the Works Progress Administration, was organized nationally in January 1936 under the supervision of Dr. Luther H. Evans, National Director. In March, work was begun in Virginia as part of the Federal Writers' Project with Dr. H. J. Eckenrode as State Director and Dr. Lester J. Cappon of the University of Virginia as part-time Assistant State Supervisor in charge of the Survey.

The Survey in Virginia has had as its objective the preparation of complete inventories of the records of the state, counties, cities, and towns. Information in the entry is given as to the dates of all extant records, the quantity, the contents of series, the arrangement, indexing, and location. Titles are arranged by subject under the office of origin. In the index they are arranged alphabetically and with cross references. In the chronological index they are arranged by decades. Preceding the entries for each office is a brief account of the history, functions, and records of that office. Non-official records are listed in the appendix.

Three district supervisors, Elizabeth B. Parker, Lois Gannaway, and Adele Sterns, were appointed to supervise the work in W. P. A. districts 1, 2, and 3, respectively. Miss Parker, in addition to her duties as supervisor, had charge of the administrative work in the state office. Although an inventory of the records in districts 2 and 3 was far from complete, it was necessary in September 1936 to close these districts and release the supervisors in order to launch the work in districts 4, 5, and 6. The supervisors employed for this territory were: John D. Clothier, Jr., Katherine Watkins, and John T. Williamson. Mr. Williamson resigned from the project in July 1937 to accept private employment. Work in his territory was completed with the assistance of his secretary, Katherine Harrington, and the general supervisory staff of the state office.

In November 1936, when the Survey became independent of the Federal Writers' Project, Dr. Cappon became part-time State Director and Miss Parker, Assistant State Director. Following Dr. Cappon's resignation in June 1937, Miss Parker was appointed State Director.

The *Inventory of the County Archives of Virginia* will, when completed, consist of a separate number for each county. The num-

bering will be according to the respective position of the county in an alphabetical list of counties. Thus Chesterfield County is number 21. The inventory of the state archives and municipal and other records will be issued separately.

The field work was begun in Chesterfield County in March 1936 by Celia L. Meyer under the supervision of Elizabeth B. Parker and completed in September. Final checking was made by Mrs. Meyer and Harry H. Parker with some assistance from the supervisor.

The inventory was edited in the Richmond office through the combined efforts of the State Director, two Supervisors—Katherine Watkins and John D. Clothier, Jr.—and the able assistance of Celia L. Meyer and Frances Lewis who devoted most of their time to statutory research. Dr. Evans and his editor in chief in the Washington office, Edythe Weiner, examined and criticized the manuscript before it was printed, but responsibility for its completeness and accuracy lies with the Virginia staff. The Survey is indebted to Dr. George M. McFarland of the Washington office for his valuable service from time to time, to Dr. Cappon for his sketch of "The Evolution of County Government in Virginia," to the officials of the Division of Statutory Research and Drafting for their assistance, and to the officials of Chesterfield County for their coöperation.

The Survey also acknowledges with appreciation the aid rendered by the University of Virginia in printing this volume.

ELIZABETH B. PARKER,
State Director,
The Historical Records Survey.

Richmond, Virginia,
June 9, 1938.

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1. HISTORICAL SKETCH

With an extreme length of thirty-eight miles and a mean breadth of twelve, Chesterfield County constitutes a long narrow peninsula lying between the James and Appomattox rivers. Its total area (after a small southwestern corner was transferred to Powhatan County in 1850) is 469 square miles.¹ It extends from the coastal plain well into the Piedmont region and thus includes one bank of the fall line of each of these important rivers. These geographic facts have greatly affected the history of the county, for the earliest Virginia inland cities had their beginnings at the fall lines, *i. e.*, the point beyond which water transport could not proceed. This accounts for the fact that Richmond is just across the river from Chesterfield to the north and Petersburg to the south. Proximity to these cities has conditioned the economic life of the county to an ever increasing degree.

In 1749 Chesterfield County was created by an act of the Virginia House of Burgesses.² It was named for Philip Dormer Stanhope, the celebrated Lord Chesterfield.³ However, the period of white settlement long antedated the legal creation. As early as 1613 a town was founded at Bermuda Hundred, and in 1619, one year before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, an iron furnace was built at Falling Creek. A proposed shipment of bar iron from this foundry to England was frustrated by the Indian Massacre of 1622.⁴

In the first Order Book of the county court it was recorded July 7, 1749, that "John Booker shall build a Courthouse, prison and pillary for the use of the said County situated convenient to the Spring adjacent to the old Field commonly called Cold Water Run. . . . The Courthouse [is] to be of the same Dimensions and like material as the present Courthouse of Henrico County," then located at Varina.⁵ The oldest records of Chesterfield date from the first year of its existence, and a considerable number of unbound papers of the colonial period have survived.⁶ Their existence is remarkable in view of the fact that, during the Revolution, the British under General Phillips marched up

1. Department of Agriculture and Immigration of the State of Virginia, *Virginia* (1937 ed.), p. 143; *Acts* 1849-50, p. 26.

2. M. P. Robinson, "Virginia Counties," in *Bulletin* of the Virginia State Library, IX, nos. 1-3, p. 208.

3. Department of Agriculture and Immigration of the State of Virginia, *op. cit.*, p. 143.

4. *Ibid.*; P. A. Bruce, *Economic History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, II, pp. 448-49; P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History in the Seventeenth Century*, I, p. 368; II, p. 288.

5. *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, XIX, p. 427.

6. See entries 43, 56, 80, 204, 210, 212.

the Appomattox, and captured the Chesterfield courthouse in April 1781. They destroyed the barracks, military supplies, tobacco in storage, and every house in town. The courthouse building itself, which had been converted into a hospital, was burned inside, but the walls were not seriously damaged.⁷ For a period it was evidently necessary for the county justices to transact their business in such quarters as they could procure, for we find the legislature passing an act to legalize such a procedure.⁸

Since the Church of England was the established church in colonial Virginia it was natural that the first subdivisions of the county should be parishes. These subdivisions have evolved into the contemporary "magisterial districts." The first, Dale, was established in 1735; and the second, Manchester, in 1772.⁹ Towns were of an earlier date; the first, Pocahontas, having been legally created in 1752.¹⁰ Pocahontas is now a lost town but Rocky Ridge, laid out at the falls of the James by William Byrd, became the town of Manchester in 1769.¹¹ By 1783 Warwick, five miles from Chesterfield Court House, was a shipping and inspection point with a larger population than Richmond, the new capital of the state.¹² Manchester, however, outstripped its rivals in the county but it was destined to be annexed by its neighbor across the James and became, in 1910, South Richmond.¹³ As in practically all Virginia counties, agriculture has always been the chief industry of Chesterfield.¹⁴ However, other industries that have arisen there have flourished and then disappeared.

In 1835, when Joseph Martin compiled his well-known *Gazetteer of Virginia*, he gave most of the space devoted to Chesterfield to a description of its coal mining industry. Mining in the Richmond coal basin, a geological area of which Chesterfield constitutes a large section, began shortly before the Revolution near Midlothian. Profitable mining continued until the end of the War Between the States. In re-

7. *Calendar of Virginia State Papers and Other Manuscripts*, II, pp. 78, 93; *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, XV, p. 86; XVIII, p. 199; XIX, p. 427; *Virginia Historical Register*, . . . , IV, pp. 199-202.

8. Hen., XI., pp. 153-54; *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, XV, p. 86.

9. Hen., IV, p. 443; VIII, pp. 603-7.

10. *Ibid.*, VI, pp. 276-77.

11. *Ibid.*, VIII, pp. 421-22; J. B. Watkins, *Chesterfield County, Virginia; Its History and Present Condition*, p. 38.

12. *Virginia Historical Register*, VI, p. 133; Hen., XI, p. 98.

13. *Acts* 1910, pp. 6-8.

14. However, it is probable that, in the years since the census of 1930, manufacturing has taken the lead since the Du Pont rayon and cellophane enterprises have constructed three large factories there during this period.

cent times, competition from the great coal fields of southwestern Virginia and West Virginia has resulted in a virtual suspension of operations.¹⁵ However, in 1835, the industry was so flourishing that Martin could claim that the Chesterfield and Manchester Railroad, which ran between the mines and Manchester, was the "most profitable *rail-road* in the world."¹⁶

Another industry, unusual in the ante-bellum South, was the Bellona Arsenal and the Bellona Foundry, located on the Chesterfield side of the James River, fourteen miles above Richmond. The arsenal was founded in 1816 and garrisoned by a company of United States Artillery; there a number of "artificers" were engaged in manufacturing and repairing small arms and other ordnance. The foundry, established by John Clarke, cast cannon under an annual contract with the government—said to be the best made in the United States. However, the isolation of the place, combined with the difficulty in securing skilled mechanics, and the fear that an uprising of the many Negro slaves employed in the neighboring coal pits might result in the capture of the ordnance, resulted in the removal of the arsenal to Fortress Monroe in 1835.¹⁷

During the period between the Revolution and the War Between the States, Chesterfield's population advanced unspectacularly from 10,846¹⁸ to 19,016.¹⁹ At the latter date nearly one-half the population was slave. The disturbances of the decade of the War and Reconstruction (1860-70) resulted in an actual decrease of population. Since 1870, however, the population has advanced steadily from 18,400 to 26,049 in 1930.²⁰ Chesterfield's proximity to three cities—Richmond, Petersburg, and Hopewell—together with the extension of good roads and public utilities—has resulted in a great many real estate developments in the county since 1930 and the census of 1940 will doubtless reveal an unprecedented population increase. This tendency is being accelerated by the industrialization of the county. In 1900, eighty-three

15. J. B. Woodworth, "The Atlantic Coast Triassic Coal Field," in *Annual Report of the Department of Interior for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1901*, Twenty-Second Annual Report of the United States Geological Survey, pt. III, pp. 38-41; J. K. Roberts, *The Geology of the Virginia Triassic*, pp. 94-96, 106; J. Martin, *A New and Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia, and the District of Columbia*, pp. 151-52; Watkins, *op. cit.*, pp. 13-14, 35-36.

16. Martin, *op. cit.*, p. 151.

17. *Ibid.*, pp. 152-53.

18. *Calendar of Virginia State Papers and Other Manuscripts*, III, p. 551.

19. *Population of the U. S. in 1860 . . . Eighth Census*, p. 516.

20. *The Statistics of the Population of the U. S. . . . Ninth Census*, p. 279; *Fifteenth Census of the U. S.: 1930, Population*, III, pt. 2, p. 1152.

industrial establishments in the county employed 546 persons; by 1930 the number of establishments had fallen to twenty-nine but the number of employees increased to 2,085.²¹ However, the number of employees in the new Du Pont factories alone, constructed since 1930, is greater than the latter figure.

It is obvious from the above that Chesterfield County has been changing rapidly during the past seventeen years. These changes have had far-reaching effects not only in the social and economic life of the people but in the county government as well. In 1932²² the legislature enacted that, upon petition of a sufficient number of voters, an election should be held in each county, to decide whether the county should continue with the old form of government, attacked on the ground of inefficiency, or substitute one of two more modern plans.²³

It is significant that these new plans were adopted in counties near urban areas where conditions are similar to those in Chesterfield.²⁴ In November 1937 there was sufficient support for the new plan to bring the matter to a vote in Chesterfield. Despite a favorable majority in the districts adjacent to Richmond and Petersburg and the efforts of the Chesterfield Better Government League, the voters rejected the county "executive" plan, by a vote of 1707 to 1110.²⁵ Agitation continued, however, and during the 1938 session of the legislature, the Chesterfield delegate, favorable to the present government, secured the passage of two bills designed to postpone action. The first of these so-called "Hobson" bills permitted the board of supervisors, at their discretion, to appoint a county executive; the second would limit a referendum on the reform measure to once in three years.²⁶ Proponents of the executive plan immediately formed a Committee to Save the Vote which obtained a sufficient number of signatures to a petition to secure another referendum before the three-year law became effective. However, the election, held May 12, 1938, was won by the proponents of the present form of county government by a vote of 2,169 to 1,743.²⁷

21. *Twelfth Census of the U. S., Manufactures*, VIII, pt. 2, pp. 910-11; *Fifteenth Census of the U. S.: 1930, Manufactures*, III, p. 532.

22. *Acts* 1932, pp. 727-52.

23. Described on pp. 30-33.

24. Arlington, a suburb of Washington, D. C., under a special act, 1930 (*Acts* 1930, pp. 387-92), Albemarle, which includes Charlottesville and the University of Virginia, 1933, and Henrico, surrounding Richmond on three sides, 1933.

25. *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, November 3, 1937, p. 1.

26. *Richmond News Leader*, March 8, 1938, p. 1.

27. *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, May 13, 1938, p. 1.

2. THE EVOLUTION OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT IN VIRGINIA

BY

LESTER J. CAPPON, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

INTRODUCTION

In a very real sense democracy is the central theme in the development of local institutions in America. So often has this idea been reiterated in flowing oratory and heated debate that on ordinary occasions the public is apathetic to its significance. Being in the nature of a truism, such is its fate; but, for the same reason, it will not down. Some new turn of events which moves the student to reassess the idea brings forth fresh evidence from the records. And some new challenge to democracy, such as we are conscious of today, leads him back to a critical review of the basic political structure.

On first thought, this trend in modern scholarship may seem the more remarkable in view of the wider interest in and the higher news value of national, international, or state-wide events. Yet the study of problems in human relations frequently reaches back to a local setting for fundamentals. If the issues of a democratic society embrace the daily life of the people, here they are to be found and their records too. Such was the experience of the Lynds¹ and it is significant that they found Middletown worth reappraising a decade later.² A growing appreciation of the multiplicity of local records and their vital importance to research has been in evidence especially since the World War. In Virginia, as elsewhere, they have been almost unknown and little used, except for the more obvious bound volumes of court records consulted by the legal profession, the genealogist, and an occasional historian. A sketch of the evolution of Virginia's county government may serve to indicate some of the opportunities and needs in this field of research.

Let us note in a general way some of the more far-reaching influences that conditioned the trend of local institutions in the Old Dominion. There was, first of all, the English heritage, revealed in such subdivisions as the parish and the hundred,³ which the officials of the London Company soon appropriated to strengthen their colony from within. As the years passed, these political units, isolated from the

1. R. S. and Helen M. Lynd, *Middletown*.

2. R. S. and Helen M. Lynd, *Middletown in Transition*.

3. Edward Ingle, "Local Institutions of Virginia," Johns Hopkins University Studies, ser. III, nos. 2-3, c. 3-5.

mother country, were adapted to the frontier environment. They gradually became less English and more Virginian. From the interaction of these two forces were evolved principles of democracy which were to transcend the oft defended "rights of Englishmen" when the Revolution came. In this connection, however, two other factors deserve consideration. There was a liberal element, led by Sir Edwin Sandys, in the London Company which gave to the democratic spirit an impetus vital enough to survive the dissolution of the Company and the perilous years of Stuart despotism. Then there was Virginia's traditional loyalty to the king which, paradoxically, protected her political life from undue royal interference and fostered the growing spirit of independence in the colony.

In the prevailing agricultural society class lines were clearly drawn and suffrage was restricted by property qualifications long after the Revolution. That influential landholders were favored politically is not surprising, but that the leaders were, in most cases, also men of talent cannot be denied. Nor was opportunity lacking for the man of humble origin and native ability to improve his social status through channels which usually progressed from local political offices. These positions were no less dignified because the jurisdiction was limited and the perquisites meager. Although all county offices—with the exception of the parish vestry, overseers of the poor, who supplanted them in 1785, and school aldermen—were appointive until the nineteenth century and the wishes of the people were expressed only indirectly through their representatives in the House of Burgesses, the system was deemed satisfactory for the most part by the colonial Virginian, as we shall see in the following pages. Perhaps, too, we shall better appreciate two traits which still characterize him today: his political mindedness and his traditional respect for constituted authority.

BEGINNINGS UNDER VIRGINIA COMPANY OF LONDON

When the colony of Virginia was founded in 1607 by the trading corporation known as the Virginia Company of London, under its charter of the preceding year affairs in the new settlement were handled directly by a president and council who were responsible to the royal council in England. Under the charter of 1609 control of the company was vested in its own council which proceeded to centralize all power in the colony in a governor who might appoint advisors and other officers to aid him. Lord De la Warr, a member of the com-

pany's council, was the first governor, whose arrival at Jamestown during the "starving time" barely prevented the abandonment of the venture. A third charter in 1612 increased the powers of the company, gave more of the members a voice in its affairs, and attracted additional capital to strengthen the colony. Joint ownership (not communal ownership) was the rule in Virginia during the years 1609-16, in order better to assure the life of the settlement, but by the end of this period it was high time to effect a change. Three-acre tracts had been rented to tenants of the company at a small charge in 1613-14, but the vast unoccupied lands in the New World suggested private ownership.⁴

Sir Thomas Smith, first treasurer of the Virginia Company, who had contributed so much to the success of its colony, was now succeeded by Sir Edwin Sandys. From his liberal and ambitious plans emerged the political institutions of Virginia. Grants of land were to be made to stockholders in proportion to their investments; other tracts were to be designated for public use—for the ministry, the contemplated college, and the company itself; but most important for the colony's growth was the "headright" plan of distribution by which any private individual might obtain a grant of fifty acres for every person transported. To hasten the expensive process of colonization which thus far had produced only a deficit, the company encouraged the organization of subsidiary associations to whom were assigned larger estates or plantations. They were to provide their own equipment, servants, and tenants. The heads of these plantations were to be favored with special privileges and limited power to make ordinances and constitutions, "till a form of government is here settled over them." Of the forty-odd patents granted for such quasi-independent "colonies," only a few materialized. The oldest, patented in 1617, was Smith's (later Southampton) Hundred, containing 80,000 acres between the James and the Chickahominy; the first actually to be organized was Martin's Hundred, in the following year. Had the Pilgrim Fathers not missed the coast of Virginia in their voyage to America, they would have composed one of these self-governing units. Thus the earliest hundreds antedated the county, and it was from each of these and from the associations or corporations of 1619 that two burgesses were sent to the first legislative assembly in America.⁵

4. C. M. Andrews, *The Colonial Period of American History: the Settlements*, I, pp. 102-24.

5. *Ibid.*, I, pp. 124-33; Ingle, *op. cit.*, c. 3; P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Vir-*

In England the hundred, consisting of that number of families, was a subdivision of the shire, created for political, judicial, and military purposes. In Virginia, some years before the more formal plantation "colonies" were established, groups of one hundred men were stationed at certain strategic points on the rivers to make settlements and for military purposes. In 1611 the governor laid off several hundreds near the mouth of the Appomattox and granted certain privileges to the settlers thereon.⁶ Even in this period of military rule one can detect the model of local government in that the governor was authorized "to use and exercise martial law, in cases of rebellion or mutiny, in as large and ample manner, as our lieutenants in our counties, within this our realm of England."⁷ In a sense, the colony may have been regarded as a distant shire of England during these early years.

Although no original records of the Virginia hundreds are extant, it may be assumed that each plantation settled its own petty disputes. The company, however, had an elaborate plan for a system of local government under which a cluster of plantations formed a precinct and monthly courts were ordered to be held "in convenient places" in these precincts. This plan was carried out by Governor Yeardley in 1619.⁸ Meanwhile another step in developing the system was taken by the division of the colony into four corporations—James City, Charles City, Henrico, and Kikotan, which were in existence in 1619 when the first General Assembly met.⁹ This legislative body promoted the company's scheme of government and carried it to its logical conclusion after the dissolution of the company in 1624. Under an act of 1623-24 monthly courts were to be held "in some of the more remote plantations."¹⁰ The original structure of local government was completed in 1634 when the colony was divided into eight shires or counties "which are to be governed as the shires in England."¹¹ The county now became the unit of representation in the colonial legislature. The hundred, too small a unit in a country so sparsely populated as Virginia, lost its political and military significance and passed out of existence.

ginia in the Seventeenth Century, II, pp. 290-91. There were four corporations in 1619—James City, Charles City, Henrico, and Kikotan, *ibid.*, p. 291.

6. Bruce, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 287-89.

7. Hen. I, p. 96.

8. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 484-85.

9. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 291-92.

10. Hen., I, p. 132.

11. *Ibid.*, I, p. 224.

HOW THE COUNTIES AND PARISHES WERE GOVERNED

Since the eight shires were "to be governed as shires in England," it is not surprising to find the offices of the former identical with those of the latter. The county lieutenant, or commander, was chief of the militia and, being a member of the council of the colony, he was a judge of the general or quarter court. His prestige at home was augmented, therefore, not only by his judicial status but also because military power was indispensable to the life of the settlements. The militia had been reorganized after the terrible Indian massacre of 1622 and the menace of the savages was an incentive to perfecting this organization during the first century of the Old Dominion.¹² The office of sheriff was likewise venerable. He executed orders of the local court, collected taxes, fees and fines, summoned the people for elections, and was *ex-officio* jailor, to mention only his more important duties. The constables aided in preserving the peace in the precincts or districts. The coroner's ancient duties included presiding at inquests over certain deceased persons and serving in place of the sheriff when necessary. The surveyor laid out the boundaries of patented public lands so that deeds might be obtained.¹³ All these officers were commissioned by the governor on nomination by the county court, except the constables who were appointed by the justices of the peace (*i. e.*, the county court justices) and the surveyor who was nominated by the surveyor-general.¹⁴

The core of Virginia's judicial system was the monthly court. As we have seen, its colonial beginnings antedate the shire. Its members, appointees of the governor and council, were called commissioners until an act of March 1642-43 changed the name to "countie courts, and the commissioners to be stiled [*sic*] commissioners of the countie courts." Cases involving sums under twenty shillings sterling were recognizable before a single magistrate.¹⁵ Twenty years later these officers were required by law to be called justices of the peace and to be chosen from the "most able, honest and judicious" citizens of their respective counties.¹⁶ During the period of the English Commonwealth the county justices assumed the right of recommending to the

12. Ingle, *op. cit.*, pp. 183-87; Bruce, *op. cit.*, II, c. 1-2.

13. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 592-605; II, p. 323.

14. *Ibid.*, I, p. 387.

15. Hen., I, p. 273.

16. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 69-70.

governor certain persons from whom he should choose additional members for their respective courts, and, in general, this right held good after the Restoration. This being the case and the appointments virtually for life, the "gentlemen justices," as they were called, became self-perpetuating bodies.¹⁷ The clerk of this court, chosen by the secretary of state, held an office of trust and responsibility which encouraged long terms of service; indeed, the seat not infrequently became hereditary.¹⁸

One other branch of Virginia's local government remains to be discussed, the parish. The spread of Christianity may not have been one of the major purposes of the Virginia Colony, but Anglican ministers were among the early colonists and we have already noted the allotment of public land for the church as part of the Company's scheme to develop the colony. At first the church was under the military, but as population increased, laws "Diuine, Morall and Martiall" were introduced to prepare for coöperation between the religious and civil authorities, based upon English practice. Like the hundred, the Virginia parish was older than the county; likewise, some of the parishes were represented in the early assemblies. The formation of new parishes followed the advance of settlement up the rivers. After the first shires were established in 1634, parish lines were usually coterminous with the boundaries of these civil divisions and later some parishes were divided within their respective counties.¹⁹ Since the advent of the shires eliminated the voice of the parishes from the assembly, they became concerned more exclusively with local problems, managed by the vestry who were elected by the parishioners. Such concern, however, was not contemned by the government at Jamestown. "Whereas," declared an act of 1662, "some particular Inconueniences may happen in a respective County or Parish, which cannot well be concluded or remedied by a General Law . . .," any of these units were empowered to make necessary by-laws provided they were approved by a majority of the counties or parishes.²⁰ In 1679, however, this privi-

17. O. P. Chitwood, "Justice in Colonial Virginia," *Johns Hopkins University Studies*, ser. XXIII, nos. 7-8, pp. 474-78; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 486-92; Ingle, *op. cit.*, pp. 191-93.

18. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 588-91; *Calendar of Virginia State Papers*, I, p. xxiv.

19. Ingle, *op. cit.*, pp. 155-57; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, c. 6. Occasionally two parishes were united to promote religious welfare and save expense. Bruce points out that there were fewer parishes in 1700 than in 1661, *ibid.*, I, pp. 58, 60.

20. *A Complete Collection of All the Laws of Virginia Now in Force* 1684, p. 112.

lege was restricted to the county courts to which each parish might send two representatives to assist in making by-laws for the whole county.²¹

Thus lay as well as clerical matters were the concern of the parish vestry. That these officers were elected by the parishioners from their own number is the more significant when their civic functions are noted, especially the laying of the parish levy, the processioning of lands, and the management of social welfare.²² Certainly in its direct representation of the community's tax-payers the vestry was more democratic in character than any other local body or officer in colonial Virginia, although the members were seldom elected for definite terms and some of them enjoyed life tenure.²³ It must be borne in mind that this was not a democratic age. Tradition ran in favor of the upper classes; such a liberal as Sir Edwin Sandys was an experimenter, not an advocate. In the agricultural society of the Old Dominion the bourgeoisie was small and lost many of its more aspiring members to the planter class. As freeholders in the various parishes, these men were jealous guardians of their control over the vestries and they must have been sorely irked when the vestry members entrenched themselves as self-perpetuating bodies after the Restoration.²⁴ The common man, lacking class consciousness, was generally apathetic to questions such as these. Bacon's Rebellion, however, which was carried out against one group of the larger planters indifferent to the Indian menace by the smaller landowners supported by the proletariat, abolished the abuse of the vestries. The action of Bacon's assembly must have displeased the ruling class, for suffrage was extended to include all freemen and the terms of vestrymen were limited to three years.²⁵ Other temporary reforms were accomplished by Bacon and his followers, but such an uprising against the royal government was foredoomed to failure. Democratic representative government was not in the minds of

21. *Ibid.*, pp. 237-38.

22. Ingle, *op. cit.*, pp. 165-67; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, c. 7-8. Much of their work was done by them, not as a body, but through their direct representatives, the churchwardens, Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, p. 79.

23. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, p. 63; L. C. Bell, *The Old Free State; A Contribution to the History of Lunenburg County and Southside Virginia*, I, p. 288; Ingle, *op. cit.*, pp. 164-65. An interesting comparison may be made between the parish vestry of Virginia and the New England town meeting, but only within rather narrow limits (*cf.* Ingle, p. 154; Edward Channing, *A History of the United States*, I, pp. 427-28).

24. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 66-68.

25. Hen., II, p. 359.

Virginians of property, small or great, and among those who would admit existing grievances, few believed the provocations serious enough to justify rebellion. The episode was a step in the development of liberalism but it has been misinterpreted frequently in describing the background of the American Revolution.²⁶

LOCAL AUTONOMY AND COLONIAL CONTROL

In their relations with the governor the vestries resented attempts to restrict their virtual autonomy. Loyalty to the king did not, in their minds, preclude independent action. Something of that freedom engendered on the frontier by mere distance from centralized authority is in evidence. This attitude is shown best in the status and tenure of their ministers. Partly as a heritage from the Virginia Company, partly from casual development, it became customary for each vestry to choose its own minister who was then presented to the governor for induction.²⁷ No clergy were appointed to comfortable livings in Virginia, for wealthy patrons were wanting and the vestries very probably would not have encouraged such interference with their control. According to Bruce, all the clergy in the seventeenth century were English born. Although there were few clergymen, the vestries usually insisted on men of their own choice. Indeed, some vestries brought down most justifiable criticism upon themselves by engaging ministers on probation from year to year, sometimes without adequate salary; others postponed the expense of a minister by employing lay readers. The celebrated "Parson's Cause" resulted from the injustice, under the Two Penny Act of 1758, of paying each clergyman his annual income of tobacco at the fixed rate, twopence per pound, although a prospective crop shortage was increasing the value of this medium of exchange.²⁸ When, in 1716, the vestry of South Farnham Parish in Essex County were so presumptuous as to suspend their minister, Mr. Lewis Latané, from office without previous accusation or conviction of any crime, they provoked the following pointed challenge from Governor Spotswood:

26. T. J. Wertenbaker, *Virginia under the Stuarts, 1607-1688*, c. 5-6, contains an excellent account of Bacon's Rebellion. I feel, however, that his use of the term "the people" sometimes needs modification or explanation.

27. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, p. 131; Hen., I, pp. 241-43.

28. *Ibid.*, I, pp. 116, 134-38; Ingle, *op. cit.*, pp. 160-62; H. J. Eckenrode, *Separation of Church and State in Virginia*, c. 2 (paged separately in Va. State Library Board, *Sixth Annual Report . . . 1908-1909 . . .*); Channing, *op. cit.*, III, pp. 8-10.

GENTLEMEN—I'm not a little surprised at ye sight of an order of yours; wherein yu take upon yu to suspend from his office, a clergyman who for near sixteen years, has served as yr minister, and yt without assigning any manner of reason for your so doing. I look upon it yt ye British subjects, in these Plantations, ought to conform to ye Constitution of their mother-countrey, in all cases, wherein ye laws of ye several colonies have not otherwise directed: and as no vestry in England ever pretended to set themselves up as judges over their ministers, so I know no law of this country yt has given such an authority to the vestrys here. . . . In case of ye misbehaviour of yr minister yu may be his accusers, but in no case his judges: much less are yu empowered to turn him out without shewing any cause. But yr churchwardens, ordering ye church to be shutt up, and thereby taking upon ym to lay ye parish under an interdict, is such an exorbitant act of power, yt even the Pope of Rome never pretended to a greater; and if yr churchwardens persist in it, they will find themselves involved in greater trouble yn they are aware of.

By ye small number of vestrymen present at ye making ye late order and ye dissent of several yt were; I apprehend the turning out Mr. Latané, and wt has followed on it since, to be ye effect of some sudden heat, and therefore am willing to believe yt upon cooler deliberation in a full vestry, yu will think fitt to reverse yt order, and give yr minister the opportunity of a fair tryal. . . . But if contrary to my expectations, yu persist in yt unwarantable way yu have begun, I recommend to yr Enquiry wt Success a vestry, (who took upon ym ye like power) mett wth at Kiquotan [Hampton]. But I hope, without obliging me to exert that authority his majesty has entrusted me with, in this case yu will rather choose to be reconciled to yr minister, wch will be more for ye quiet of yr parish. . . .²⁹

Such high-handed procedure by a vestry smacked too much of separatism to be tolerated in an Anglican colony.

The problem of meting out justice was given due consideration from the earliest years of the colony, and it is the general consensus of scholarly opinion that the county courts, whose origin we have traced, were "one of the most important . . . institutions, not only in respect to the administration of justice, but for police and economy."³⁰

29. Manuscript letter, December 17, 1716, on deposit in University of Va.; printed in Lucy T. Latané, *Parson Latané, 1672-1732*, pp. 25-26; and inaccurately in William Meade, *Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia*, I, p. 395.
30. R. C. 1819, I, p. 244n. Cf. also Chitwood, pp. 490-91; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, p. 478 and pt. iii, *passim*; W. R. Staples, "Address," in *Report of the Sixth Annual Meeting of the Virginia State Bar Association*, pp. 139-40, 145-48.

To them were gradually transferred many functions of the general court, the only other permanent judicial body.³¹ Men of honor and dignity on the county bench enhanced its prestige; in the eyes of the average Virginian who seldom visited the capital, these justices personified the law, so that the county courts really "became the most influential bodies in the Colonial establishments."³² One observer, writing in the mid-seventeenth century, commended Virginia justice for being speedy and "daily administered."³³ While this may be an exaggeration, each new county formed meant the extension of local justice. Courts were even projected for such frontier posts as William Byrd's fort at the falls of James River,³⁴ and private courts on some of the larger plantations were not prohibited until 1662.³⁵ In the extensive frontier counties of 1748, however, courts were held quarterly because "the attendance of the inhabitants at monthly courts is grievous and burthensome."³⁶ Indeed, bi-monthly sessions had been made the rule in all counties in 1642-43 and for a half century thereafter until the monthly meeting was restored,³⁷ probably to meet the increased need in the growing colony.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF COUNTY JUSTICES

The structure of Virginia's colonial government was developed from the top down. Power emanated from the governor, who was responsible to the king, and from the governor and council, who were the embodiment of the aristocratic tradition. The position of the "gentlemen justices" of the local courts, creatures of these officials, from the upper level of society, and independent of the rank and file, seems, at first glance, to bear out this impression of centralization. But this is not the whole story. The justices served only in the courts of their respective counties³⁸ and, since improvement of the society which touched their own daily lives depended upon their judicious handling of the cases before them, their feeling of responsibility was deepened and their sense of justice tempered by understanding. The original

31. *R. C.* 1819, I, p. 244n; *Hen.*, I, pp. 303-4.

32. Bell, *op. cit.*, I, p. 289.

33. Hammond, *Leah and Rachel*, in Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 478-79.

34. *Ibid.*, I, p. 483.

35. *A Complete Collection of All the Laws of Virginia Now in Force* 1684, p. 29.

36. These counties were Albemarle, Augusta, Brunswick, Fairfax, Frederick, and Lunenburg, *Hen.*, VI, pp. 201-10.

37. *Ibid.*, I, p. 273; III, pp. 503-5; Chitwood, *op. cit.*, p. 477.

38. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, p. 504.

court in each county was named by the governor, but it became customary for him to fill vacancies by appointing only persons from those recommended by the justices themselves.³⁹ While the weakness of such a system is obvious, it fortified the locality in meeting its own problems and encouraged that individualism which is still the pride of Virginia counties. Since the office afforded no salary and few perquisites, men of mercenary motives were disinterested.⁴⁰

When the eight original shires were set up in 1634, it was planned that a member of the council should assist at each monthly court,⁴¹ but with an increase in the number of counties this provision became impracticable. Nor was the scheme of setting up a circuit court, composed of the governor and councillors to sit in each county, any more successful; established in 1662, it was discontinued the following year because of expense and inconvenience.⁴² The influence of geographic and economic factors in augmenting the prestige and authority of the "gentlemen justices" is shown in the widening jurisdiction which their courts enjoyed. "All causes of what value soever between party and party," said an act of 1645, "shall be tryed in the countie courts by verdict of a jurie if either party shall desire it."⁴³ By the time of the Revolution they were deciding all law and chancery cases except where loss of life or limb or legal protection was involved; and their duties in fiduciary matters were considerable.⁴⁴

While these justices were, almost without exception, men of honor and dignity,⁴⁵ holding an office removed from the bickerings of petty politics, some were vestrymen in their respective parishes, while others were members of the House of Burgesses and perhaps churchwardens too.⁴⁶ In Albemarle County, among the first justices Joshua Fry was also surveyor and county lieutenant; Joseph Thomson was sheriff; Peter Jefferson was lieutenant colonel and Allen Howard major of the

39. Chitwood, *op. cit.*, p. 475n. 19; Ingle, *op. cit.*, pp. 191-92.

40. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 502-4.

41. Hen., I, p. 224.

42. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 64, 179.

43. *Ibid.*, I, pp. 303-4.

44. Ingle, *op. cit.*, p. 193. The court was exempted from petty cases under 20 shillings or 200 pounds of tobacco, which were heard by individual justices of the peace, Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 478-79.

45. One writer's statement, Bell, I, p. 289, that no removal or attempted removal of any county justice occurred during the colonial period, is not in accord with the facts; for Bruce, I, pp. 505-6, cites a few instances. A detailed study of court records of the eighteenth century would probably reveal others.

46. Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, p. 62.

militia.⁴⁷ This illustration, which could be duplicated from many other counties,⁴⁸ indicates the diverse influences, political and personal, conditioning, consciously or subconsciously, that judicial impartiality which at best can be attained only to a relative degree. Then there were the court's administrative duties—laying the county levy, fixing the rates of inns and ordinaries, nominating tobacco inspectors, regulating relations between master and servant, etc.—all exposing the justices more readily to public criticism. The power to tax was a vulnerable point. The county levy, based upon the number of tithables, was onerous to the man of small means. He found it the more irritating because on some occasions the justices voted the taxes in secret session. During the latter years of Governor Berkeley's administration these grievances were voiced in several counties. "It has been the custome," declared the freemen of Surry, "of the County Courts . . . to withdraw into a private Roome by which the poor people not knowing for what they paid their levy did allways admire how their taxes could be so high."⁴⁹ In response to this discontent, one of Bacon's laws provided that representatives elected by the freemen should sit in equal number with the justices of each county to participate in making the assessments.⁵⁰ Thus it is evident that the county courts did not function unchallenged, nor were they devoid of fault. The justices in the late seventeenth century were doubtless inferior to their predecessors who were English trained,⁵¹ but the calibre improved during the half century before the Revolution.⁵²

LIBERAL VS. ARISTOCRATIC TRADITION

The infusion of liberalism into the judicial system was one of the issues in the struggle that went on periodically among the governor, council, and burgesses, with varying alignments of any two bodies

47. Albemarle County Court Order Book, 1744-48, pp. 1-2, 7-8.

48. Cf. Maud C. Clement, *The History of Pittsylvania County, Virginia*, pp. 94-99; J. A. Waddell, *Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, from 1726 to 1871*, pp. 52-56, 58, 60-62, 215-16; L. P. Summers, *History of Southwest Virginia, 1746-1786*, *Washington County, 1777-1870*, pp. 130-32, 255-56.

49. Wertenbaker, *op. cit.*, p. 138. In Charles City County the justices were accused of fraud and misappropriation of funds.

50. Hen., II, p. 357.

51. Chitwood, *op. cit.*, p. 473n. 12; Charles Campbell, *History of the Colony and Ancient Dominion of Virginia*, p. 352.

52. As late as 1748, however, Governor Gooch, who was not sympathetic toward decentralized control, declared that "the county courts were for the most part constituted of very weak men," H. L. Osgood, *The American Colonies in the Eighteenth Century*, IV, p. 110.

against the third. During 1651-52, under Cromwell's Commonwealth which temporarily weakened the authority of the royalist Governor Berkeley, the county justices were chosen by the House of Burgesses, but this power was resumed shortly by the governor and council. At this time he began making appointments to the bench on recommendations of the local justices and during 1658-60 these appointments had to be confirmed by the burgesses.⁵³ As we have seen, Bacon's reforms were short-lived and Berkeley's rule became more arbitrary. The justices and other appointees were made subservient to him and to his unpopular successors, and intimidation was resorted to in local elections.⁵⁴ In 1682 was abolished the judicial power of the House of Burgesses to which appeals had been allowed from the inferior courts. This privilege, long enjoyed "according to ye Laws and antient [*sic*] Practice of the Country," was never restored.⁵⁵

After the English Revolution of 1688 the opportunity for oligarchic rule was lessened and the eighteenth century spirit of liberalism was in the air. Governor Nicholson in his second administration broke with the council on this issue. Although they accused him of irresponsible appointment and removal of county officials and of the issue of blank commissions signed and sealed, the burgesses supported him against the aristocratic council.⁵⁶ The question of fees, which is always best settled by their abolition, was argued during Spotswood's governorship. An act of 1696 had called for a compilation of all the fees scattered through the laws of Virginia, for some county clerks had exacted unreasonable charges through "a misconstruction of what the laws . . . do really intend, or an avaritious [*sic*] humour, them thereunto moveing. . . ." ⁵⁷ In 1718 the assembly won the governor's consent to a bill specifying the fees of the secretary of state and of all county officers and attorneys. Then, having gained this point, the burgesses desired to attach a rider to the fee bill making the county justices elective and transferring from the secretary to the justices the appointment of the county clerks. The rider was omitted, however, when Spotswood threatened to veto the entire bill.⁵⁸ This picturesque governor maintained no alliance with either house of the legislature

53. Chitwood, p. 474.

54. Wertenbaker, pp. 212, 218.

55. *Ibid.*, pp. 241-42; Chitwood, p. 424.

56. Osgood, *op. cit.*, II, pp. 178-79.

57. Hen., III, p. 153.

58. Osgood, II, pp. 246-47; Leonidas Dodson, *Alexander Spotswood, Governor of Colonial Virginia, 1710-1722*, p. 182.

and his personality was such as to win a large measure of support from all classes of society. In an address to the home government, answering charges of the burgesses against him, he pointed to the oligarchic councillors as the source of friction but at the same time he decried the election of unqualified burgesses supported by local demagogues, and recommended raising the property requirements for suffrage.⁵⁹ Similar issues which arose under succeeding governors encouraged the spirit of individualism and weakened the foundations of upper class rule. But there was enough elasticity and interdependence between the central and local governments of the colony so that the machinery ran smoothly most of the time. In the years of the mid-eighteenth century, war with France and her Indian allies was crowding domestic problems off the stage, and after the Peace of 1763 British imperialism brought about a realignment of interests in Virginia.

ANTECEDENTS OF THE REVOLUTION

It is unnecessary for our purposes to trace in detail the events which led to the Revolution. The new imperial policy in its design to retard the westward movement of population and the transfer of land titles from the Indians to greedy speculators, to levy new taxes for the payment of war debts, and to control more rigidly the commercial activities of the colonists, antagonized all classes of society by depleting their purses directly or indirectly. But they resented fully as much, if not more, the interference with the freedom of action and relative autonomy which they had long enjoyed. They had never become quite conscious of the supremacy of parliament, for their dealings had been with the king and privy council, remote and often dilatory in making decisions; and, as for the argument that they were "virtually" represented in parliament, they disagreed heartily. From the rights of Englishmen, which they interpreted broadly, it was not a far cry to the rights of man. In Virginia, when the crisis of 1775-76 came, liberals and conservatives differed not on principle but on how long action should be delayed and how much the revolution should affect the social structure within.⁶⁰

The spirit of individualism and local independence so marked in

59. Osgood, II, pp. 248-50.

60. Eckenrode, *op. cit.*, pp. 41-42; T. P. Abernethy, "Western Lands and the American Revolution," University of Virginia Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, *Institute Monograph*, no. 25, p. 149.

colonial Virginia was frequently in evidence during the decade before the Revolution. Some of the county courts took as positive a stand against the Stamp Act of 1765 as did the House of Burgesses. The justices of Westmoreland, to cite only one instance, resolved that they could not serve as a court after the day the new law was to become effective,⁶¹ and together with the citizens of the county, they formed an association a few months later to oppose the act.⁶² The passage of the Townshend Acts and the suspension of the New York assembly occasioned petitions from certain counties to the burgesses to express their fear lest this oppression spread to other colonies.⁶³ The sudden dissolution of the House of Burgesses by Governor Dunmore in May 1774 because they refused to cooperate with him resulted in the closing of the county courts. The burgesses had not had time to renew the fee bill fixing the charges for recording of deeds, issuing of writs, etc., nor were they anxious to re-open the courts and expose the people to suits for violations of the new commercial restrictions.⁶⁴ Another arm of local government was weakened when independent militia companies were organized in a number of counties, especially after Dunmore removed the powder from the magazine in Williamsburg.⁶⁵

While the colonial government was disintegrating, a new system of county committees was arising to nurture the nascent revolutionary movement. These were encouraged by the meeting of the assembly at various times as a sort of extra-legal committee of the whole after it had been dissolved by the governor, beginning in 1769 when the first non-importation agreement was adopted. Enthusiastic county meetings preceded the election of delegates to the series of conventions of 1775-76 whose proceedings culminated in Virginia's decision for independence, May 15, 1776. As a matter of fact, the personnel of the old House of Burgesses and of the revolutionary conventions was largely identical, while many of the convention delegates had already served on county committees.⁶⁶ It was possible, therefore, for the conventions to pass legislation making the committees more uniform

61. C. R. Lingley, "The Transition in Virginia from Colony to Commonwealth," *Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law*, ser. XXXVI, no. 2, pp. 367, 369.

62. *Ibid.*, p. 369.

63. *Ibid.*, p. 373.

64. *Ibid.*, p. 394.

65. *Ibid.*, pp. 390-92, 425.

66. *Ibid.*, pp. 400-23, 428-29n., 461-62. Few of their records have been preserved.

in size, providing for methods of election, and outlining their duties and responsibilities.⁶⁷

The events of these critical years reveal that Virginia's aristocratic society had been leavened by the spirit of liberalism, fostered chiefly through the channels of local self-government. Among the revolutionary leaders of greater and lesser fame, both radicals and conservatives had been trained in this school of experience. George Mason's service, for example, as "gentleman justice," vestryman, burgess, and member of the revolutionary conventions was typical. Out of such experience grew the deliberation and discussion of pre-revolutionary years, while the prolonged hope of reconciliation cherished by a majority of the leaders forestalled any hasty, shortsighted declaration. Dunmore's remark that every justice of the peace was acting as a county committeeman was hardly an exaggeration. Virginia's declaration of independence was the expression of a mass movement ably led.⁶⁸

EFFECTS OF REVOLUTION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Revolution of 1776 was political, not social. Freedom from British imperialism did not mean the establishment of a new democratic society. Confiscation of loyalist property injured only a small percentage of the aristocracy. The democratic features of the Virginia constitution of 1776, which concentrated too much power in the legislature, were bitterly opposed; as for the Lockian philosophy expressed in the Bill of Rights, in the minds of many it was fraught with danger.⁶⁹ The article on the judiciary left the county court system unchanged, except that vacancies in the clerk's offices were to be filled by the respective courts instead of by the secretary of state.⁷⁰ All county justices who took the oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth were to continue in office.⁷¹ A resolution of the convention of March 1775, suspending these courts, was repealed in October 1777.⁷² This continuity in the transition from the old to the new régime stabilized local conditions and lessened the likelihood of any social upheaval. After the Revolution, an act of 1785 (amended in 1788) "for reforming the

67. *Ibid.*, pp. 426-28.

68. *Ibid.*, pp. 434-41, 445-52, 484-87.

69. *Ibid.*, pp. 490 ff.

70. B. P. Poore, *The Federal and State Constitutions, Colonial Charters* . . . , II, p. 1911.

71. Lingley, *op. cit.*, p. 500.

72. *Hen.*, IX., p. 368.

county courts" specified quarterly sessions in certain months for all cases at common law and in chancery, petitions for debt, etc., and monthly sessions for all other matters.⁷³ In the revision of the laws made in 1792 all acts regarding these courts were reduced into one.⁷⁴

In contrast to the unchallenged position of the county courts during the Revolution, the fate of the vestries was quite otherwise. As the number of dissenters grew rapidly during the last years of the colony, the established church found itself even more on the defensive; indeed, in some parishes dissenters were even serving as vestrymen.⁷⁵ In the constitution of the new commonwealth the Bill of Rights declared that "all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience." Did this mean the complete disestablishment of the church? The breach between the conservative and democratic forces was now widened by a question that involved not religion so much as property rights. The new legislature of 1776, with the same membership as the revolutionary convention, exempted dissenters from any taxes for the support of the established church and continued the poor relief function of the vestries, but recognized all the property of the church. The question of a general religious assessment was to be settled by a future general assembly.⁷⁶ Here was more disillusionment than gain for the dissenters in the first year of the new régime, and the beginning of a struggle that was to span a quarter of a century. Although some vestries were dissolved during the war and overseers of the poor elected in their place, especially in counties west of the Blue Ridge,⁷⁷ an act of 1779 guaranteed the property of the church⁷⁸ and another of 1784 incorporated the minister and vestry of each parish, the vestry to be elected by the parishioners every three years.⁷⁹ In spite of this conservative reaction, led largely by the erstwhile radical Patrick Henry, the spirit of liberalism was on the move under the able guidance of James Madison. His "Memorial and Remonstrance"⁸⁰ of 1785 against the assessment bill, which would have made Christianity the state religion, defeated the bill.⁸¹ Having gained

73. *Ibid.*, XII, pp. 32-36, 467-74.

74. Shepherd, I, pp. 11-13.

75. Lingley, p. 520; Eckenrode, c. 3.

76. Hen., IX, pp. 164-65.

77. *Ibid.*, X, pp. 288-90; XI, pp. 62-63.

78. Eckenrode, pp. 62-64.

79. Hen., XI, pp. 532-37.

80. Gaillard Hunt, *The Writings of James Madison*, II, p. 183.

81. Eckenrode, c. 5, especially pp. 100 ff.

this point, he was able to effect the repeal of the incorporation act in 1787.⁸² Meanwhile, in the preceding year, Jefferson's famous bill for religious freedom had been enacted,⁸³ and thus one of the fundamental principles of the Revolution was guaranteed. The question of the sale of the glebe lands, involving the property rights of the Episcopal Church, hung fire until the end of the century when they reverted to the state.⁸⁴ In 1802 the overseers of the poor in each county were empowered to sell the glebe if, or when, it became vacant,⁸⁵ and by 1830 most of them had disappeared.⁸⁶

LOCAL DEMOCRACY RETARDED BY TRADITION

During the first half of the nineteenth century, in Virginia as in most other states, the legislature was the all-powerful branch of government. Under the constitution of 1776 the governor, the council of state which shared executive responsibility, and the judges of the superior courts—all were chosen by the legislature, whose members were responsible to an electorate restricted by property rights. "An *elective despotism* was not the government we fought for," wrote Jefferson toward the close of the Revolution.⁸⁷ In the new movement for political democracy, suffrage, the basis of representation, equitable taxation, and the direct election of certain state officials became leading questions of the day in Virginia, intensified by economic issues of a highly sectional character. During the twenty-odd years of argument culminating in the constitutional convention of 1829-30, abuses in local government received scant consideration and continued unchanged under the new constitution.

We have pointed out above⁸⁸ that the overthrow of the British régime in Virginia was not in the nature of a social revolution and that the political revolution affected county government only in the dissolution of the vestries and the transfer of their humanitarian functions to the overseers of the poor. Indeed, this one change, by abolishing the only local body with legislative power, strengthened the position of the

82. *Ibid.*, c. 6; cf. Hen., XII, p. 266, on the management of church property by trustees and the regulation of church discipline.

83. Hen., XII, p. 84.

84. Shepherd, II, pp. 149, 314-16.

85. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 314-16.

86. Eckenrode, p. 52.

87. *Const. or Form of Government 1776*, secs. 9, 11, 13; Thomas Jefferson, *Notes on the State of Virginia*, p. 226.

88. *Supra*, p. 20.

county court. It was inevitable, therefore, that in the rising tide of democracy these justices, appointees of the governor, should become the focal point of attack. Since the county court was not specified in the constitution of 1776, it was subject to modification by legislative action, but aristocratic tradition was so firmly rooted that the reform group which developed after the War of 1812 was held in check by compromises on other issues.⁸⁹

At the close of the Revolution there had been some prospect of a constitutional convention in preparation for which Jefferson had composed a "Draught of a Fundamental Constitution." This document provided that "the *Judiciary* powers shall be exercised by county courts and such other inferior courts as the legislature shall think proper to continue or to erect,"⁹⁰—a proposal which the conservatives, led by John Marshall, chairman of the committee on the judiciary, incorporated into the constitution of 1830.⁹¹ As a result these courts could be altered only by constitutional amendment.

In view of Jefferson's renewed interest in political and educational reform during his latter years, this was an ironical turn of events. He criticised the judiciary as "seriously anti-republican" in a letter to John Taylor in 1816.

Add to this, [he wrote], the vicious constitution of our county courts (to whom the justice, the executive administration, the taxation, police, the military appointments of the county, and nearly all our daily concerns are confided), self-appointed, self-continued, holding their authorities for life, and with an impossibility of breaking in on the perpetual succession of any faction once possessed of the bench. . . . One-half of our brethren who fight and pay taxes, are excluded, like Helots, from the rights of representation, as if society were instituted for the soil, and not for the men inhabiting it. . . .⁹²

About the same time Jefferson suggested a reform of county administration by setting up subdivisions called wards after the manner of New England townships, "making every citizen an acting member of the government." They would elect their own officials, including a justice, and the justices from each ward would constitute the county

89. Cf. C. H. Ambler, *Sectionalism in Virginia from 1776 to 1861*, p. 96.

90. Jefferson, *op. cit.*, p. 418.

91. *Proceedings and Debates of the Virginia State Convention of 1829-30*, pp. 33, 502-6. Cf. Const. 1830, art. v., in Poore, *op. cit.*, II, p. 1918.

92. *The Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, XV, pp. 20-21.

court with their customary duties.⁹³ This township plan in modified form was to be inaugurated during Reconstruction days a half century later under discredited auspices. While Jefferson voiced as late as 1824⁹⁴ the sentiments of the reform group whose main support came from western Virginia, his last energy was concentrated on the founding of the University of Virginia. His ideas were no longer so popular even among the survivors of his own generation, and among the more outstanding younger leaders such as Leigh and Upshur, Calhoun's philosophy of minority rights was upheld.⁹⁵ While the convention of 1829-30 attracted widespread attention by the brilliant debates of its many distinguished members,⁹⁶ the reformers accomplished little and local government was liberalized only indirectly by broadening the suffrage to include leaseholders and housekeepers.⁹⁷

WEAKNESS OF THE COUNTY COURT

A glimpse of the structure of Virginia's county government during the first half of the nineteenth century will enable the reader to understand why it could ill withstand the pressure of democratic forces. The only elective officers were the overseers of the poor and, after 1846, the school commissioners; as for the latter, few counties provided sufficient funds for the "free schools" of that period because the idea still prevailed that they were mainly for the education of indigent children and no uniform system was possible under the existing laws.⁹⁸ All other officials were more or less subject to the influence of the county court. As in colonial days, the sheriff, coroner, and militia officers were commissioned by the governor on nomination by the court;

93. *Ibid.*, XV, pp. 32-44. This idea of "ward republics" probably evolved from his proposal enacted as a law in 1796 whereby each county was to be districted and aldermen appointed to determine the expediency of submitting to the householders the question of establishing primary schools. But the conservatives emasculated this law by an amendment giving the county court the right to decide when the aldermen were to be appointed. Shepherd, II, pp. 3-5. Cf. P. A. Bruce, *History of the University of Virginia, 1819-1919* . . . I, pp. 65-66, 82-84.

94. *Richmond Enquirer*, April 27, 1824, p. 3.

95. Ambler, *op. cit.*, pp. 149 ff.

96. D. L. Pulliam, *The Constitutional Conventions of Virginia from the Foundation of the Commonwealth to the Present Time*, p. 65.

97. *Ibid.*, pp. 66-67.

98. *Report of the Revisors of the Code of Virginia, Made to the General Assembly* . . . 1847-48, p. 430n. On the appointment of aldermen for school purposes, *supra*, n. 93. Cf. W. A. Maddox, *The Free School Idea in Virginia before the Civil War*, c. 9-10.

and the custom had grown up by which a senior justice was chosen for sheriff and recommissioned annually.⁹⁹ Six other officers were appointed directly by the court: the clerk, commissioner of the revenue,¹ attorney for the commonwealth,² road surveyor,³ commissioner of roads,⁴ and the constables.⁵ The court itself was a self-perpetuating body, as Jefferson had pointed out. Having the power to recommend any number of new justices, it fell into the evil of excessive nominations which the governor seldom curbed for fear of provoking local hostility.⁶ Inefficiency and a decline in quality were inevitable in a judicial body of some twenty or thirty members. During the first century of Lunenburg County (established in 1746), two hundred and forty justices served on the county bench, less than one-tenth of whom held office for from twenty to twenty-five years.⁷

The county courts were revered by most members of the convention of 1829-30 as the very heart of the Old Dominion's government; yet one action of this convention unwittingly exposed the shortcomings of this court in subsequent years and led eventually to its abolition. This was the provision made in the new constitution for "such superior courts as the legislature may . . . ordain and establish."⁸ Under an act of the following year the state was districted and in each county a circuit superior court of law and chancery was held twice annually by a judge of the general court who was a resident of his district chosen by the general assembly.⁹ These circuit courts replaced the previous superior courts of law (one in each county)¹⁰ and the district courts of chancery.¹¹ The circuit courts had broad civil and criminal juris-

99. Shepherd, I, p. 43; *R. C.* 1819, I, p. 276. By law the court nominated three persons every year, one of whom was to be approved by the governor and council.

1. Called "commissioners" in 1786, *Hen.*, XII, pp. 243-55, amending the act of 1782 which designated them "commissioners of the land tax"; called "commissioners of the revenue" in 1792, Shepherd, I, pp. 53-61.

2. *R. C.* 1819, I, p. 272.

3. *Code* 1849, p. 270.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 266.

5. Shepherd, II, p. 403.

6. *Report of the Revisors of the Code of Virginia* . . . 1847-48, p. 266n.

7. Bell, I, pp. 326-34.

8. *Const.* 1830, art. v, sec. 1, in Poore, II, p. 1918.

9. *Acts* 1830-31, pp. 42, 46.

10. Shepherd, III, pp. 355-60. District courts of law had been established in 1788 and abolished when the superior courts of law went into operation in 1809. Cf. *Code* 1849, p. 617n.

11. Shepherd, II, pp. 320-22, 331-33; *R. C.* 1819, I, p. 196n. The district courts of chancery established in 1802, had superseded the high court of chancery of 1777 because "delays inseparable from the present high court of chancery are

diction, concurrent with the county courts in some matters, although originally the right to appeal from county to circuit courts was limited to certain controversies or sentences concerning mills, roads, probate of wills, appointment of guardians, etc.¹²

Two decades of experience with the circuit courts convinced many a Virginian that they were superior in personnel and efficiency and, by comparison, the old county courts were declining in prestige. There was a tendency among the county justices to nominate as their associates some men without legal ability or a knowledge of even the elementary principles of law, and since they served without pay, they were permitted to practice on the side. Men with higher qualifications, who were none too numerous in many counties, gravitated to the circuit bench.¹³ As justice was administered more speedily and at less expense, the circuit courts were granted wider jurisdiction concurrently with the county courts;¹⁴ nevertheless the dockets of the former were not congested, while postponements were frequent in the latter.¹⁵ The county courts were bogged down with multitudinous executive and administrative as well as judicial duties, a heritage from colonial times and complicated now by the problems of an expanding population.

DEMOCRATIC GAINS IN 1850-51

The democratic movement in Virginia gained fresh momentum in the 1840's and culminated in the constitutional convention of 1850-51. East-West sectional animosity had become increasingly bitter over the questions of suffrage and the basis of representation; the Democratic westerners were in the ascendancy and the Whig minority in the East was willing to compromise.¹⁶ In their sweeping victory the liberals wrote white manhood suffrage into the new constitution and made most officials directly responsible to the electorate.¹⁷ The only appointive

often equal to a denial of justice," Shepherd, II, p. 320; cf. *Code* 1849, p. 617n.

12. *Acts* 1830-31, pp. 47-50.

13. *Virginia Constitutional Convention, 1850-51, Debates and Proceedings Issued as Supplements to Each of the Richmond Newspapers*, I, suppl. no. 60, debates of June 5, 1851.

14. *Ibid.*, I, suppl. no. 61, debates of June 6, 1851; *Code* 1849, p. 618.

15. *Virginia Constitutional Convention, 1850-51, Debates and Proceedings* . . . , I, suppl. no. 60; "Abstract from the Reports of the Clerks of Court of Appeals and of the Circuit Superior Courts of Law and Chancery," 1838-45, in *Documents Containing Statistics of Virginia Ordered to Be Printed by the State Convention, 1850-51*, paged separately.

16. Ambler, pp. 254-59.

17. Pulliam, *op. cit.*, pp. 94-98.

county officers were the road surveyor, superintendent of schools, deputy clerk of each court, and deputy sheriff;¹⁸ the coroner was appointed by the governor. All others were elective,¹⁹ even the highly respected clerk of the county court who in most counties had won such a reputation for trustworthiness and honor that he served a life-time, and not infrequently, his son and grandson after him.²⁰

The judicial system was reorganized again with ten district courts having appellate jurisdiction only, and circuit courts similar to the old circuit superior courts of law and chancery; as a matter of fact, the business of the new circuit courts was recorded as a continuation of the old in the same volumes or series of volumes. The judges of all these courts were elected by the people and received salaries.²¹ The life of the county courts was spared for another half century. In the face of the sound argument that they had outlived their real usefulness and should at least be deprived of civil and criminal jurisdiction which the circuit courts could handle exclusively,²² the conservatives defended these "institutions of our fathers" and warned that "to break them up is to strike at the very roots of our society."²³ They stressed, and rightly so, the importance of court day in the political and social life of the community,²⁴ but this occasion still prevails today during the sessions of the circuit courts. In their enthusiastic descriptions of the county court, both contemporary and later writers have been more sentimental than critical.²⁵

RECONSTRUCTION AND ITS AFTERMATH

Revolutionary events of the Civil War and Reconstruction in-

18. The road surveyor was appointed by the county court; the superintendent of schools by the board of school commissioners; the deputy clerk by the clerk of the respective court; and the deputy sheriff by the sheriff.
19. The militia officers were elected by the members of their respective companies.
20. Cf. Frederick Johnston, *Memorials of Old Virginia Clerks*, pp. 67, 100, 112, 189.
21. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, in Poore, II, pp. 1932-35. The justices of the county courts were paid a per diem compensation under this constitution.
22. *Virginia Constitutional Convention, 1850-51, Debates and Proceedings* . . . , I, suppl. no. 60.
23. *Ibid.*
24. *Ibid.* One member of the convention of 1850-51 remarked: "I like the old fashioned mode of the Virginia people in coming together, and sitting down and having a good dinner, and drinking a glass of toddy . . . sitting side by side on the court green . . . and interchanging opinions." Cf. Ingle, pp. 182, 192-93.
25. Cf. Staples, pp. 145 ff.

jected new issues into the problems of local government in Virginia. The dismemberment of the state in 1861 was a revolutionary act, although the formation of West Virginia was supposedly given a shade of constitutionality in being recognized by the so-called "restored government" of Virginia at Alexandria.²⁶ Local government ceased to function temporarily in most counties in the theatre of war and many records were willfully destroyed by the invader or carried off as souvenirs. Few records of tax returns or vital statistics for 1864-65 are extant—a significant commentary on war conditions. After the collapse of the Confederacy the "restored government" moved to Richmond. It had already authorized a convention which adopted a constitution in 1864 without proper authority or popular approval in even one-tenth of the counties. This government was taken over by the radicals—the carpetbaggers, well-meaning reformers, some of them, with visions of a democratic revolution as the fruit of victory; the freedmen who expected political equality and their share of the spoils of confiscation; and southern renegades (so branded) who hoped to improve their lot under a new political and social régime. Large numbers of ex-Confederates, including most of Virginia's leading citizens, were disfranchised by the "iron-clad oath" required by Congress. Virginia was made a part of Military District No. 1 and the Reconstruction Act of 1867 provided the method whereby the "territory" could seek readmission to the Union.²⁷

Under these conditions the convention of 1867-68 met to frame a new constitution. The radicals, of course, were in control with twenty-five Negro delegates supporting them. To the conservatives, the chief issue was not greater democracy but white supremacy. Quite aside from the racial problem, the granting of civil rights and suffrage to the Negro followed logically after emancipation in the overthrow of the old southern régime, and the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments to the United States Constitution confirmed the position of the radicals in Virginia as elsewhere. Therefore they incorporated this gain for democracy into the new constitution;²⁸ however, since

26. H. J. Eckenrode, "The Political History of Virginia during the Reconstruction," *Johns Hopkins University Studies*, ser. XXII, nos. 6-8, c. 1; Pulliam, pp. 120-24.

27. Eckenrode, "The Political History of Virginia during the Reconstruction," *Johns Hopkins University Studies*, ser. XXII, nos. 6-8, c. 3; Pulliam, pp. 124-26.

28. *Const.* 1869, art. i, especially secs. 2, 3, 19-21, and art. iii, in Poore, II, pp. 1953-56; also in *Code* 1873, pp. 68-71.

emancipation was the only permanent accomplishment of what might have been a far-reaching revolution, the conservative element eventually reestablished white rule. This was a major political issue in Virginia until after the turn of the century when the fiction of Negro equality was made secure in the constitution of 1902.²⁹

While the more spectacular scenes of the "tragic era" were acted out in the state capitals, carpetbag interference with local government was not uncommon. When Negroes and undesirable whites were placed in office under military protection, passive resistance was the policy generally adopted by the conservatives biding their time. Radical rule, however, precipitated some reforms which otherwise would have been long delayed. Three are especially worthy of comment, as provided for in the constitution of 1869.

The administration of justice in the county court was entrusted to one salaried judge, chosen by the general assembly for six years,³⁰ thus eliminating many of the objections to the personnel and irresponsibility of this court.³¹

A state-wide system of public education was authorized under a superintendent of public instruction and state board of education³² which appointed a superintendent of schools for every county.³³ The county superintendent and district school trustees formed the county school board with administrative powers,³⁴ the latter chosen by the school trustee electoral board since 1877³⁵ (except during 1884-87).³⁶

The most valuable contribution to the structure of county government was the board of supervisors, one elected from each township.³⁷ To this board were transferred the administrative functions of the old county courts; other judicial and administrative powers regarding finance, taxation, road building, were delegated to this board from time to time by the legislature.³⁸

29. Especially art. ii and by omission of secs. 19-21 from the Bill of Rights as found in *Const. 1869*, appendix to J. N. Brenaman, *A History of Virginia Conventions*, pp. 4-10.

30. *Const. 1869*, art. vi, sec. 13, in Poore, II, p. 1965.

31. *Supra*, pp. 24-26.

32. *Const. 1869*, art. viii, secs. 1-2, in Poore, II, p. 1967.

33. *Code 1887*, pp. 388-89.

34. *Acts 1871-72*, p. 81.

35. *Acts 1876-77*, p. 9.

36. *Acts 1883-84*, p. 177. Again succeeded in 1887 by school trustee electoral board, *Acts 1887*, pp. 305-6.

37. *Const. 1869*, art. vii, sec. 2.

38. S. N. Hurst, *An Annotated Constitution of Virginia* . . . , p. 93.

But the radicals overreached themselves in setting up townships as units of local government in Virginia, after the New England fashion. In most counties the townships were too sparsely populated to need a separate township board, clerk, assessor, and collector.³⁹ History had justified thus far the county as the practical unit in Virginia and so the township plan was abandoned shortly in favor of magisterial districts under the board of supervisors.⁴⁰ During the period 1869-1902 most county offices were elective by the people; the judges of the circuit and county courts and the members of the county electoral board, called the county board of school commissioners, 1884-87, were chosen by the general assembly. The others were appointed by various county or state officials.

Twice between 1888 and 1900 the proposal to call another constitutional convention was rejected because the time did not seem opportune to wipe out the last vestiges of Reconstruction.⁴¹ The convention of 1901-2 not only guaranteed white supremacy, as we have seen, but also made provision for dealing with new economic and social problems of the industrial age. In the sphere of county government there were lengthy debates once more over the status and value of the county court. The time-worn arguments were presented again in its defense, but the forceful, realistic objections of the opposition were its final undoing.⁴² No provision was made for this court in the new constitution and its powers and duties were transferred to the circuit court by the next legislature.⁴³ The centralization of greater power in the state board of education at the expense of the local school boards was to result in an improved educational system, and it was possible now to set up school divisions of more than one county under one superintendent.⁴⁴

RECENT TRENDS TOWARD REFORM

The complex economic and social problems of the present century have brought the individual into closer contact with all branches of

39. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 269-87.

40. *Acts* 1872-73, p. 274.

41. Brenaman, *op. cit.*, pp. 80-83.

42. *Report of the Proceedings and Debates of the Constitutional Convention, State of Virginia . . . 1901 to . . . 1902*, I, pp. 1332-39.

43. *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 626.

44. *Const.* 1902, art. ix, sec. 132. Cf. F. A. Magruder, "Recent Administration in Virginia," *Johns Hopkins University Studies*, ser. xxx, no. 1, pp. 20-21, 30.

government. In our highly integrated society, as the fields of national and state government overlap in many respects, so in the province of local government certain duties and responsibilities are shared with the state and national administrations. In Virginia such state bodies as the departments of health, public welfare, and highways have taken over the functions of the counties in these spheres or regulate them so that power is centralized and controlled by the state with distinct benefit to the public. Pride and jealousy of local autonomy have retarded this movement, but it is not surprising to find the public interest sacrificed to tradition, nor difficult to appreciate the tenacity of tradition that reaches back three hundred years and beyond. The old structure of county government was expanded and new offices were added, by constitution and statute, when the need arose; some were filled by election, others by appointment; few were ever abolished. Thus Virginia's counties faced the new century with inefficient machinery poorly geared and lacking an executive body with adequate power and responsibility at the controls.

Throughout the nation the reform movement in state and local government developed last in the counties. Mounting costs of government during the World War and since, however, have brought home to many citizens the wastefulness and shortcomings of their local government. The state authorized a study of these problems in 1922 with a view to increasing the efficiency of both state and county government,⁴⁵ and during the governorship of Harry F. Byrd sweeping reforms were made in the state structure and machinery under the reorganization act of March 1927. It was during these years that the trial justice court was set up in a few urban counties⁴⁶ and was made optional in others.⁴⁷ Under Byrd's successor the reform program was advanced by establishing a Virginia Commission on County Government in 1930.⁴⁸ The result of this Commission's study and recommendations was an act offering a choice of two plans of government,⁴⁹ the executive plan, adopted by Albemarle County in 1933, and the man-

45. *Report of the Commission on Simplification and Economy of State and Local Government to the General Assembly of Virginia, January, 1924*, especially c. 17; New York Bureau of Municipal Research, *County Government in Virginia. Report on a Survey Made for the Governor and his Committee on Consolidation and Simplification, January, 1927*.

46. *Acts 1922*, pp. 650-53; *Acts 1924*, pp. 401-5.

47. *Acts 1926*, pp. 862-66.

48. *Acts 1930*, pp. 689-90.

49. *Acts 1932*, pp. 727-52.

ager plan, adopted by Henrico in the same year.⁵⁰ Under both of these plans the board of supervisors, one from each magisterial district, are vested with all legislative and administrative authority. Only the county clerk, sheriff, and commonwealth attorney remain elective. The surveyor, coroner, constable, school trustee electoral board, inheritance tax commissioner, and all but one justice of the peace in each district are abolished. The county executive is appointed by the board of supervisors to carry out their policies, prepare the annual budget, make monthly reports, and head one or more departments of government. Under the alternative plan, the manager, with powers and duties comparable to the executive's, is also chosen by the board of supervisors, but he appoints most of the officials of the county. In both Albemarle and Henrico efficiency and economy have resulted in such large measure that the reform has been justified in a short time. Under a special legislative act⁵¹ Arlington County set up a county manager under its board of supervisors but did not reorganize its governmental structure otherwise. Although improvement in the administration of this county is noteworthy, it would have accomplished more under a thoroughgoing manager plan.⁵²

In 1934 the trial justice court was made compulsory in all counties,⁵³ with wider civil and criminal jurisdiction than the old justices of the peace possessed. This latter officer is now only a process server. More efficient and equitable administration of justice is provided by the trial justice, with a reduction in the number of appeals to the circuit courts. Under the compensation act of 1934 the fee system in lieu of salaries has been eliminated for the commonwealth's attorney, county treasurer, and commissioner of revenue.⁵⁴ Although some counties have rejected the new form of county government (Chesterfield County did so in November 1937),⁵⁵ the success thus far attained will serve to educate the public further, and political agitation outside the all-powerful Democratic Party of Virginia may contribute addi-

50. G. W. Spicer, "Albemarle County, Virginia, Adopts the Executive Plan," *National Municipal Review*, ser. XXII, pp. 331-33; "The County Manager Plan Proves Itself," *ibid.*, ser. XXIII, pp. 508-11; "Virginia's Progress in County Government," *American Political Science Review*, ser. XXVIII, pp. 1074-78.

51. *Acts* 1930, pp. 450-56.

52. Spicer, "The County Manager Plan Proves Itself," *National Municipal Review*, ser. XXIII, no. 10, pp. 508-11.

53. *Acts* 1934, pp. 466-74.

54. *Acts* 1932, pp. 892-95; *Acts* 1934, pp. 733-42.

55. *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, November 3, 1937.

tional impetus to the movement.⁵⁶ Another proposal, advocated by a growing number of thoughtful citizens, is the consolidation of counties.⁵⁷ Years of depression have strengthened their argument that if local government is worth preserving, the size of the unit in respect of area, population, and productivity must be such as to assure its proper function under modern conditions. If history has shown that democracy is not guaranteed merely by making more offices elective, so too it is evident that tradition and local pride must sometimes compromise for the sake of social advancement.

56. Virginia State Committee, Communist Party, *Who Shall Rule Virginia, the People or the Byrd Machine?*, pp. 11-12.

57. G. W. Spicer, "Spotlight on the County Manager Plan: Virginia," *National Municipal Review*, ser. XXV, pp. 563-64.

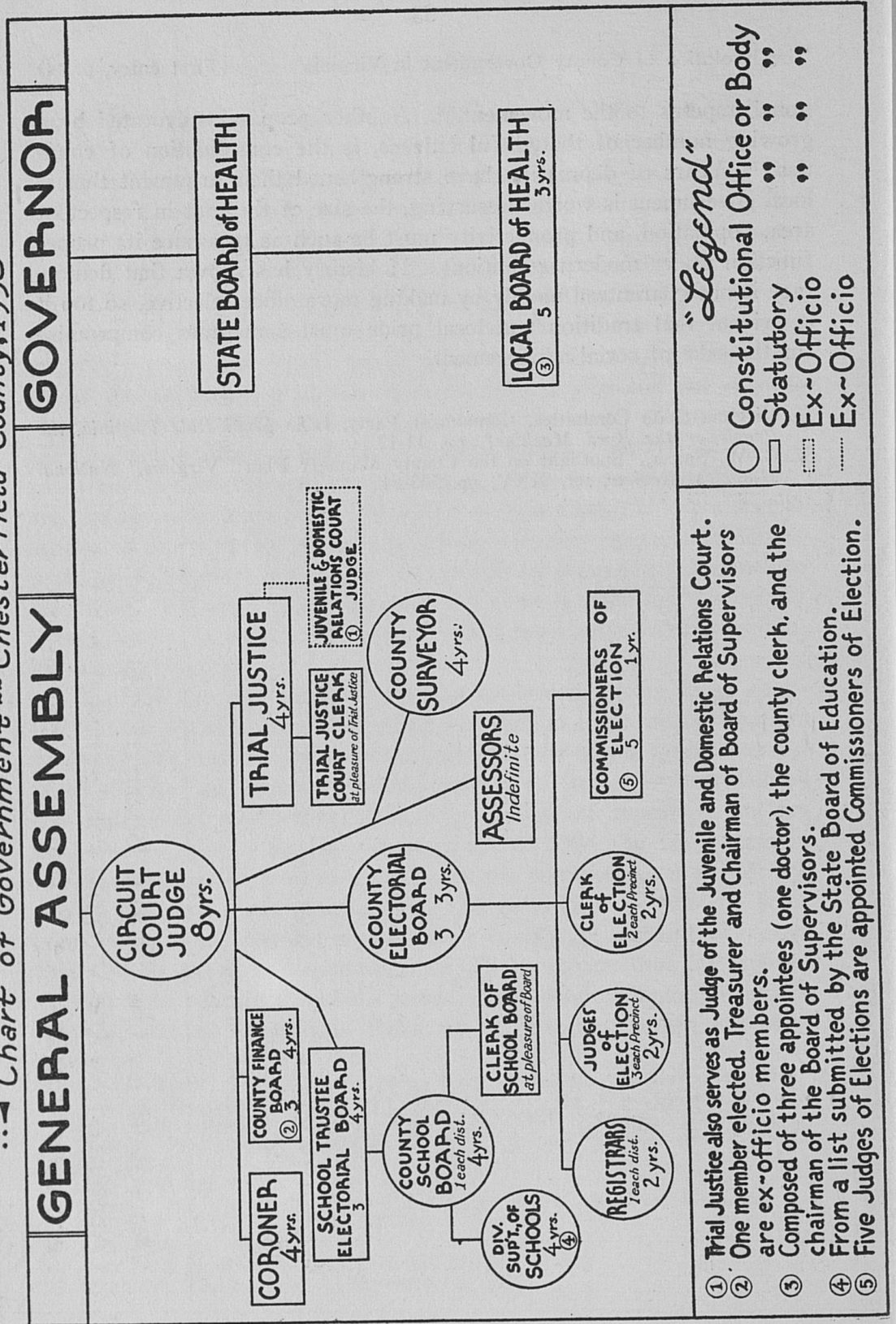
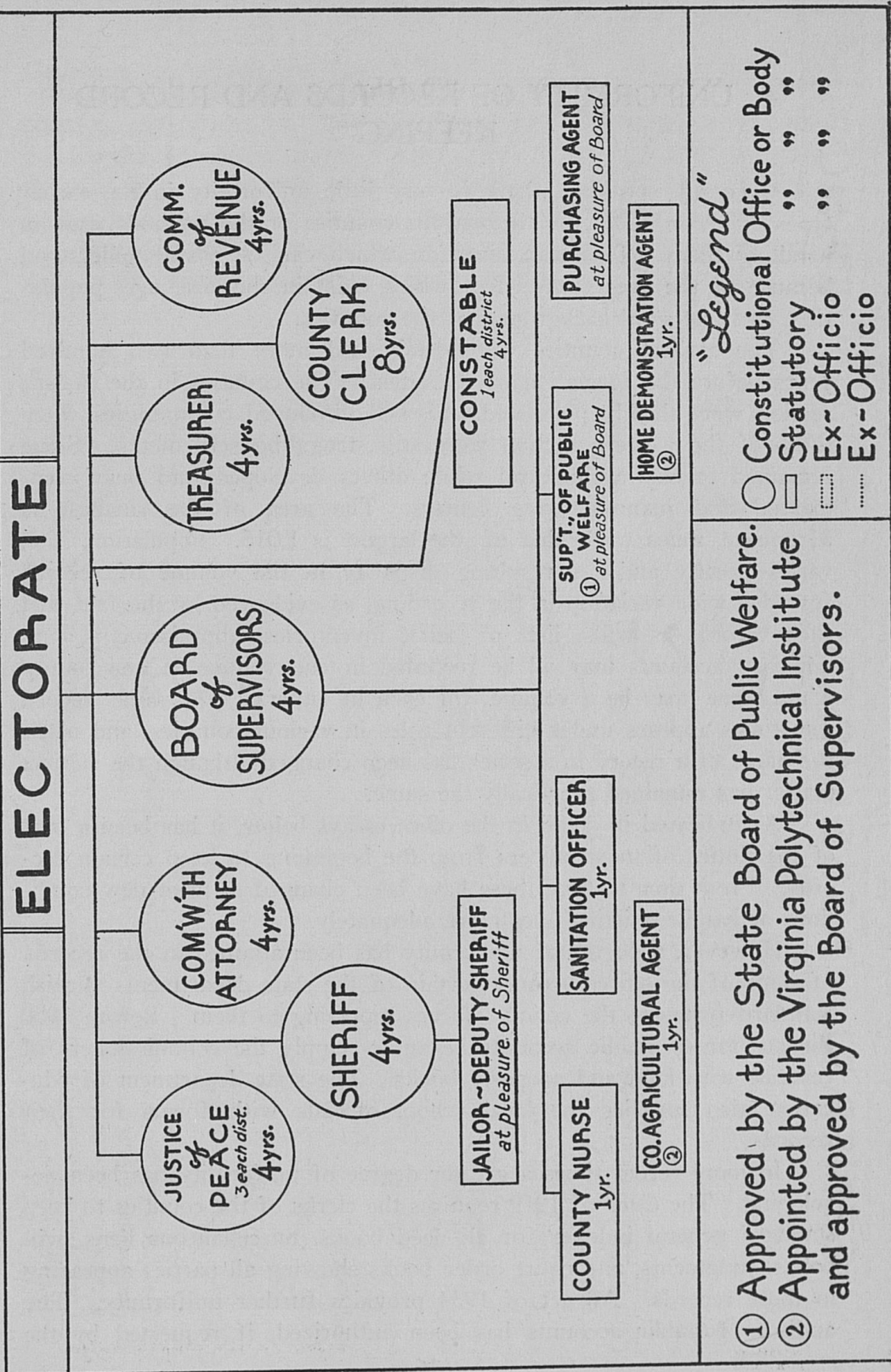


Chart of Government -- Chesterfield County, 1938



4. UNIFORMITY OF RECORDS AND RECORD KEEPING

Generally speaking, there is very little uniformity in the earlier types of records kept by the various counties or the methods used in handling them. This is a situation which can be easily understood because of the great differences which exist in the size, age, population, and historical background of the counties.

The earliest counties were established more than two hundred years before the formation of the latest. The counties in the eastern section were thickly populated and well developed communities when those of the western section were still struggling settlements. Some remained quietly agricultural while others developed into busy commercial and manufacturing centers. The area of the smallest is 31 square miles while that of the largest is 1,015. Population, too, varies greatly and the resulting disparity in the volume of records forced a wide variation in the recording, as evidenced by the fact that such records as wills, lists of heirs, inventories, appraisements, and fiduciary accounts may all be recorded in one volume in one county while there may be a volume for each in others. The same record sometimes appears under different titles in various counties, and often the name of a record in a series has been changed although the subject matter has remained practically the same.

As indicated in detail in the office essays below, it has been a part of the duties of most officers from the beginning to keep certain records. From time to time these have been changed to meet new conditions or handle existing ones more adequately.

However, a degree of uniformity has been attained in the records of some of the offices because certain of the state departments furnish standard forms to the county officers reporting to them. Before 1860 the auditor of public accounts began to supply the commissioners of revenue with land and property books. The state department of education also supplies the local school officials with forms for their records.

In more recent times a greater degree of uniformity has been developing. The *Code* of 1919 requires the clerks of the counties to keep standard general indexes for all deed books, miscellaneous liens, will books, judgments, and court order books showing all parties appearing in these records. An act of 1934 provides further uniformity. The auditor of public accounts has been authorized, if requested by the

board of supervisors, to establish a system of bookkeeping and accounting for the treasurers, clerks of courts, and school boards of the counties, and to examine such records. The trial justice courts, established in the same year, are required to keep uniform records.

The need for uniformity in the record system has been recognized and a vast improvement in the present situation can be expected.

5. HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE RECORDS

The present courthouse, located at Chesterfield Court House, built in 1917, occupies almost the exact site of the original which was built about 1750. Although burned to the walls by the British in 1781, records do not mention any damage to court documents. In 1864 the northern army raided it and some papers were stolen, but most were saved by the clerk who carted them away in a wagon and stored them in an old ice house. After the war they were returned. In 1871 the place for holding court was moved to the town of Manchester, but when Manchester became a city in 1874, the county seat was moved back to Chesterfield Court House.

In the present two-story colonial building, constructed of red brick and approximately eighty-four feet long, forty-eight feet wide, and forty-five feet high, are located the circuit court room, the judge's private office, the court stenographer's office, the trial justice court room, and the office of the clerk of the trial justice court.

Three other buildings which house the records of Chesterfield County are all one-story red brick structures. Northeast of the courthouse is the main record building, the clerk's office, built in 1889. This building, which includes the offices of the clerk, the deputy clerk, the court record typist, and the general reference room or record vault, was renovated and enlarged in 1930.

East of the record building is the school board office, built in 1828 as the clerk's office and used as such until 1889. In 1932 the interior was remodeled. The west room is the office of the clerk of the school board who is also the auditor and purchasing agent of the board of supervisors. Hence both the school papers and board of supervisors' records are housed here. The east room, the office of the superintendent of schools, adjoins the west room.

In 1930 the treasury building was erected east of the courthouse. In this building the following offices are located: public stenographer, commissioner of revenue, county agricultural agent, sanitation officer, county treasurer, home demonstration agent, and county nurse.

Directly south of this building is the small one-story frame building which temporarily houses the records of the superintendent of public welfare.

The sheriff, coroner, constable, justice of the peace, secretary of the electoral board, jailor, and surveyor do not have public offices.

Therefore, their records are either kept in their homes or turned over to the clerk.

A few Chesterfield records are housed in the basement of the Richmond Hustings Court, Part II, called South Richmond storage in this inventory.

Generally speaking, these buildings are adequate for storing the records and, with the exception of the superintendent of public welfare's office, are practically fire-proof. Although the offices of the trial justice clerk, the clerk of the school board, and the county agricultural agent are crowded, there is at present sufficient space in the other offices for the housing of records; however, a few extra filing cabinets would be of great assistance in caring for the records in the general reference room of the clerk's office. Considering the fact that the Chesterfield records have been exposed to two wars and have been transferred a number of times to various places in the county, the bound volumes and court papers have been kept relatively intact, and are, generally speaking, well housed and accessible.

6. ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

ABBREVIATIONS

<i>Acts</i>	<i>Acts of the Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia</i>
alph.	alphabetical(ly)
arr.	arranged
art.	article
aver.	average
bd.	board
bldg.	building
c.	chapter(s)
<i>ca.</i>	approximately
C. C.	County Courthouse
<i>cf.</i>	compare
chron.	chronologically
clk.	clerk
co.	county
co. agt.	county agricultural agent
<i>Code</i>	<i>Code of Virginia</i>
comm. rev.	commissioner of revenue
co. n.	county nurse
<i>Const.</i>	<i>Constitution of Virginia</i>
dist.	district
div.	division
ed.	edition
etc.	and so forth
ff.	the following
hdr.	handdrawn
hdw.	handwritten
Hen.	Hening, <i>Statutes at Large</i>
home dem. agt.	home demonstration agent
<i>ibid.</i>	the same reference
<i>i. e.</i>	that is
j. p.	justice of the peace
n.	note
no(s).	number(s)
N. Y.	New York
off.	office
<i>op. cit.</i>	work cited
p(p).	page(s)
pri.	private
pt.	part
<i>q. v.</i>	which see
R. C.	<i>Revised Code</i>
rm.	room

Abbreviations, Symbols, and Explanatory Notes

(First entry, p. 44)

san.	sanitation
sch.	school
sec(s).	section(s)
ser.	series
Shepherd	Shepherd, <i>Statutes At Large</i> (New Series)
So. Rich.	Hustings Court, Part II
suppl.	supplement
supt.	superintendent
t. j.	trial justice
treas.	treasurer
U. S.	United States
V. S. L.	Virginia State Library
va.	vault
Va.	Virginia
<i>Virginia Laws</i>	<i>An Exact Abridgement of All the Public Acts of Assembly of Virginia, of a Public and Permanent Nature, as are now in Force.</i>
vol(s).	volume(s)
vs.	versus
wel.	welfare
yr(s).	year(s)

SYMBOLS

x	by
—	placed after a date means from that year on.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Titles of records are shown in the inventory proper exactly as they appear on the volumes and file boxes. The most recent title is used as the title of the entry. Those titles appearing in brackets are assigned titles; those in parentheses are explanatory titles for the purpose of making the exact title clearer. Letters or numbers in parentheses indicate the exact labeling on volumes or file boxes. Where entries show missing dates, records covering these years could not be found. Some descriptions seem inadequate because the worker was not allowed access to the file boxes. In such cases, all possible information was secured from the custodian.

The symbol for inches has been omitted after the measurements. Dimensions for volumes and bundles are always given in the sequence of height, width, thickness; for file cases, boxes, and other containers in the sequence of height, width, depth.

Title line cross references are used to complete series for records

kept separately for a period of time. They are also used in all artificial entries—records which must be shown separately under their own proper office or section heading even though they are kept in records appearing elsewhere in the inventory. In both instances, the description of the master entry shows the title and entry numbers of the record from which the cross reference is made. Separate third paragraph cross references from entry to entry are used to show prior, subsequent, or related records which are not part of the same series.

The locations given for the records are the locations at the time the survey was made. These are subject to change as records are often moved. A few Chesterfield records now in the archives division of the Virginia State Library have been included in this inventory. However, all the archives records are not accessible.

The physical condition of records is assumed to be good unless otherwise designated in the individual entries.

I. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

This board, consisting of six members, is at present the chief administrative organ of the county. It was first established by the constitution of 1869.¹ Previously its duties had been performed by the justices of the county court. The constitution of that year provided that each county should be divided into townships and that one supervisor should be elected annually by the voters of the township. In addition to their duties as township officers, which were soon abolished by constitutional amendment,² the township supervisors collectively were to constitute the county board of supervisors. Their general powers were enumerated in an act of 1870 and, for the most part, they have remained the same.³ It was then provided that the board should: (1) audit the accounts of the county and settle with the county treasurer, sheriff, and any other officer having an account with the county; (2) examine the books of the assessors (later commissioners of revenue) and regulate and equalize the valuation of property; (3) fix the amount and lay the county levy; (4) sell and purchase property for county use; (5) settle the accounts against the county; and (6) build and keep in repair the county buildings.

The county clerk has always been *ex-officio* the clerk of the board of supervisors just as he had acted prior to 1870 as clerk of the county court in its performance of county administrative functions. He was required: (1) to keep a record of all proceedings of the board; (2) to make regular entries of all decisions and resolutions concerning the raising of money; (3) to record the votes of each supervisor on any question upon the request of any one member; (4) to sign all warrants issued by the board for the payment of money and to record the reports of the county treasurer to the board concerning the receipts and disbursements of county funds; (5) to file all accounts acted on by the board with their action thereon.⁴

In 1875 the townships were abolished and the supervisors have from that time been elected by magisterial districts. At the same time, their term of office was extended from one to two years and they were re-

1. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 2.

2. *Acts* 1872-73, pp. 274-77; *Acts* 1874, pp. 95-98; *Acts* 1874-75, pp. 56, 354.

3. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 270-71.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 274.

quired to nominate suitable persons for appointment by the county judge as county surveyor and county superintendent of the poor.⁵

The constitution of 1902 made no changes in the organization and powers of the board beyond lengthening the terms of the supervisors to four years.⁶

The board's powers and duties are fixed by statute and it has none save those expressly conferred by statute.⁷ Consequently, recent legislation regarding the board has been confined to granting authority to do such things as levy taxes for the benefit of disabled confederate soldiers, appropriate money for agricultural demonstration work in the county, appoint a purchasing agent, inspect jail registers and jails and report conditions, enact special local legislation for protection of public thoroughfares and regulate traffic thereon.⁸

Minutes

1. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (Minutes), 1870—. 7 vols. (1-7).

Minutes of meetings show tax levies; road expenditures; reports on roads, schools, poorhouse, jail, treasury, police appointees, and courthouse improvements. Vols. 1-6 indexed by parties and subjects; vol. 7 not indexed. 1870-1906 hdw.; 1906—typed. 550 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. 6 vols., 1870-1931, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1931—, west rm.

2. MEMORANDUM BOOK OF MEETINGS OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, 1885-92, 1918—. 7 vols. Title varies: Memorandum Book, 1885-92. No title, 1885-87, 1924-27.

Secretary's notes of board of supervisors' meeting from which he later wrote the minutes of the meetings. No index. Hdw. Aver. 128 pp. 12 x 7½ x ½. Clk. off., west rm.

3. COURT AND BOARD ORDERS, 1915-21. 1 vol.

Motions of board of supervisors. Also contains [Clerk's Private Letters], entry 143. No index. Typed, hdw., and printed. 200 pp. 15½ x 12 x 1½. Clk. off., center rm.

4. DEAD PAPERS—BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, 1870-76, 1884-91, 1896—. 89 file boxes. 1930 in Papers Found after Filing

5. *Acts* 1872-73, pp. 274-77; *Acts* 1874, pp. 95-98; *Acts* 1874-75, p. 355.

6. *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 111-12.

7. *Supervisors vs. Powell*, *Virginia Reports*, XCV, pp. 635, 637 and *South Eastern Reporter*, XXIX, p. 682 in *Code* 1936, c. 109 general note.

8. *Acts* 1908, p. 602; *Acts* 1910, pp. 375, 502; *Acts* 1924, p. 651; *Acts* 1932, p. 698.

Board of Supervisors—Warrants and Claims

(5-10)

Completed: Justice Warrants, 1916; Commissioner's Report of Omitted Capitation Taxes, 1910-13; Board of Supervisors, 1930, entry 253.

Contains papers dealing with completed business of the board such as measures promoting general welfare, health, and safety; appointments and county levies. Arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. 88 files, 1870-76, 1884-91, 1896-1934, clk. off., north rm.; 1 file, 1935—, west rm.

5. LIVE PAPERS—BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, 1928—. 1 file box. Reports, appointments, and levies of the board of supervisors. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For records pertaining to finances only, see entry 17.

Warrants and Claims

6. WARRANTS, 1869-1934. 95 bundles in a trunk.

Canceled paid warrants from county, dog, sanitary, poor, jury, road, school, salary, and miscellaneous funds. Dated but not arr. chron. Trunk 32 x 34 x 22; bundles 10 x 3½ x 4. Clk. off., north rm.

For related warrants, see entry 305.

7. WARRANTS (Stubs), 1874-75, 1887-1914, 1928—. 28 vols. Title varies: Checks, 1930-32. No title, 1887-93, 1895-97, 1901-5, 1909-14.

Shows number, amount, date, name, what given for. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 500 pp. 14 x 14 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

8. CLAIMS FOR BOUNTY ON SCALPS OF BIRDS AND ANIMALS, 1929-30. 1 file box. Discontinued.

Claims for bounty show date, claimant, and list of scalps. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For related records, see entry 461.

9. BOUNTY WARRANTS, 1928-30. 1 vol. (warrants numbered 1-500). Discontinued.

Shows date, number, name, amount, kind of scalps or bills. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. 9 x 14 x ¾. Clk. off., west rm.

10. [STATEMENT OF COUNTY EXPENSES], 1901-21. 2 vols.

List of claims allowed by the board of supervisors and for which warrants were issued on county levy, district road funds, and general road fund. No index. Printed. 25 pp. 17 x 14 x ½. Clk. off., north rm.

Board of Supervisors—Budgets

(11-17)

11. [CLAIMS ALLOWED BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS], 1919, 1926—. 2 drawers.

Original claims allowed and paid by warrants of board of supervisors. No index. $7\frac{1}{2}$ x 20 x 17. Clk. off., west rm.

12. [WARRANT REGISTER], 1929—. 4 vols.

Shows date, to whom payable, particulars, warrant number, amount and account. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 98 pp. $15 \times 13\frac{1}{2} \times 1$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

13. MEMORANDUM OF COUNTY WARRANTS (inside title), 1936—. 1 vol.

Duplicate warrants show date, name of payee, amount, and purpose. No index. Typed on printed forms. 750 pp. $7\frac{1}{2} \times 9 \times 3\frac{1}{2}$. Clk. off., west rm.

Budgets

14. BUDGET ESTIMATES, 1927—. 2 file boxes.

Shows budget appropriations, amounts to be expended, and balance for the month. Arr. chron. $11 \times 5 \times 14$. Clk. off., north rm.

15. BUDGET RECORD, 1929—. 1 vol.

Shows account, budget appropriations, amounts expended, and balance for each month. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. $17\frac{1}{2} \times 15 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

16. ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURES (inside title), 1934—. 1 vol.

Shows number and title of functions, number and title of item; proposed appropriation, expenditure, and actual appropriation for previous year; proposed expenditures for the coming year, increase or decrease over previous year, and amount allowed by board. No index. Typed on printed forms. 100 pp. $13 \times 18 \times \frac{1}{2}$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

17. REPORTS, STATEMENTS, BUDGETS, MINUTES, RESOLUTIONS, PETITIONS, 1932—. 1 file box and 1 bundle.

Contains financial reports, statements, budgets, rough minutes, resolutions, and petitions of board of supervisors. Also contains similar papers for school board, entry 394. The supervisors' and school board papers have been filed together since the purchasing agent of the board of supervisors is also the clerk of the school board. 1932-34 not arr.; 1934— arr. by subject. File $11\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2} \times 27$; bundle $10 \times 14 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

For general reports, see entry 5.

Accounts

18. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' JOURNAL, 1929—. 3 vols.

Journal entries for accounts show date, name, amount, and posting reference. No index. Hdw. 147 pp. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

19. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' LEDGER, 1929—. 1 vol.

Shows account number, name, address, credit rating and limit, name of business; date, items, folio for debits and credits. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 640 pp. $13 \times 10 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

20. DISTRIBUTION RECORD (inside title), 1929—. 2 vols.

Shows date, warrant number, and funds for poor, public building, jurors, lunacy commissions, coroner's court, elections, public health, education, roads and bridges, and miscellaneous funds. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 320 pp. $17\frac{1}{2} \times 15 \times 2$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

21. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' INVOICES, 1935—. 1 file box.

Invoices of the purchasing agent of board of supervisors show quantity, item, price, total, and date. No index. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times 27$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

22. [COUNTY BONDS CALLED IN], 1922. In Sheriff's Bonds, 1778-1841, County Checks 1913, County Bonds Called in 1922, entry 57.

County bonds called in for payment show name, date of issue, amount, interest, when due, date paid.

23. [AUDITOR'S REPORTS], 1919, 1921-29, 1932—. 1 drawer.

Auditor's reports on various county offices show officers with their sureties; composite statements of assets and liabilities, charges and indebtedness, accounts and salaries payable, surplus accounts, general government expenses, school expenses, capital outlay, county-owned buildings and insurance, budget estimates, budget appropriations, and expenditures. No index. Drawer $7\frac{1}{2} \times 20 \times 17$. Clk. off., west rm.

Miscellaneous

24. ON IMPROVEMENTS TO JAIL, 1936. 1 bundle.

Typed resolutions on improvements to jail. No index. $12 \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$. Clk. off., east rm.

25. ATLAS OF CITY OF RICHMOND AND MANCHESTER AND VICINITY, 1876. 1 vol.

Pictorial land maps showing layout of streets and surrounding country with outlines of houses, published by F. W. Beers, Richmond, Virginia. Scale of

first map 1" equals 1000'; others 1" equals 200'. No index. Printed, some also colored. 83 pp. 18 x 14 x 1/2. Clk. off., north rm.

26. MAP—CITY OF RICHMOND, VA., AND ENVIRONS, 1933. 1 map.

Land tenure. Columbia Planograph Company, Washington, D. C. Printed. Scale 3 5/16" equals 1 mi. 47 x 30. Clk. off., north rm.

II. COUNTY CLERK

From the record keeping point of view, the county clerk has always been the most important of the local officers. The office is probably as old as the county court itself since, according to Bruce, this court was one of record from the beginning.¹ During the colonial period the county court clerk was appointed and removed at pleasure by the secretary of Virginia.² Under the *Form of Government* of 1776 the county court clerk held office during good behavior and vacancies were filled by the county court. In 1830 his term was fixed at seven years but he was expressly declared eligible for reappointment.³ The constitution of 1851 further reduced his term to six years and provided for popular election;⁴ that of 1869 further reduced his term to four years and provided for the election of a separate circuit court clerk in Chesterfield and all other counties of more than 15,000 population.⁵ In 1875 the terms of the clerks were extended to six years.⁶ With the abolition of the county court by the constitution of 1902, the offices of the county and circuit court clerks were combined into one office known as the county clerk. The county court clerk was retained as county clerk with a term of eight years.⁷ Thus for the past thirty years all the functions and records of the various courts that have existed in the Virginia counties have been concentrated in the hands of the county clerks.

The colonial county courts were charged with important administrative as well as judicial duties. While these functions of the county courts were gradually circumscribed and placed in the hands of other

1. P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, I, pp. 588-89.

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Form of Government* 1776, sec. 15; *Acts* 1830-31, p. 78.

4. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 30.

5. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 1.

6. *Acts* 1874-75, p. 133.

7. *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 110, 112.

officers during the period of statehood, the county clerk continued to record these activities no matter where they were transferred by the successive constitutions. Through the centuries he has performed and continues to perform five general types of duties:

(1) "As county clerk he has charge of the custody and preservation of the county records; . . . acts as general clearing house and bureau of information for the county; acts as clerk of the commissioners of election, tabulates votes, issues certificates of election, qualifies and takes bonds from county and district officers; issues, records and reports hunting and fishing licenses. . . .

(2) "As clerk of the court he issues all writs, summons, processes, makes and keeps all court dockets and notes all orders and proceedings therein; he is in constant attendance upon the court while in session, impanelling and swearing jurors and witnesses, keeping minutes of all court proceedings, and performing many other duties in connection with the business of the courts.

(3) "As probate officer he has charge of the probation of wills, appointment and qualification of and the taking of bonds from executors, administrators, curators, guardians, etc., and of all general probate work, whether before the court or in the clerk's office.

(4) "As county recorder the clerk has charge of the recordation, verification and indexing of deeds, deeds of trust, mortgages, contracts, conditional sales, miscellaneous liens, wills, inventories, appraisements, settlement of fiduciary accounts, bonds, judgments, executions, marriages, maps, plats, delinquent lands, charters, crop liens, medical certificates and other legal papers.

(5) "As clerk of the board of supervisors he is in constant attendance upon their meetings, prepares all minutes, resolutions, and orders of the board, copies and certifies tax orders, and issues warrants for all accounts and claims authorized by the board."⁸

It has been estimated that one-third or more of the 7,000 and odd sections of the *Code of Virginia* and the *Tax Code* bear in some way on the duties of this officer.⁹

8. "Report of the Commission on County Government to the General Assembly of Virginia," (Senate Document, no. 3), December 1931, p. 50 in *Senate Journal and Documents*, 1932.

9. *Ibid.*

Contracts

27. **CONDITIONAL SALES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, 1889—.** 18 vols. (1 vol. not numbered, 2-18; 7-14 and 16 are also numbered 1-9). Vol. 1889-1902 has missing pages. Title varies: Conditional Sales of Personal Property and Miscellaneous Lien Docket, 1920-35; Conditional Sales, 1902-11. No title, 1889-1902.

Copies of conditional sales of livestock, household furnishings, and boats, showing name and address of parties, date, security, terms of contract and releases. Volumes doubly labeled 7-14, 16 and 1-9 also contain Miscellaneous Lien Book, 1920-34, entry 28. 1889-1920 indexed by name of vendor; 1920— indexed by name of vendor and vendee. Hdw., 1920-26 and 1933-35 contain typed passages. Aver. 248 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. 3 vols., 1889-1902, 1935—, clk. off., west rm.; 15 vols., 1902-35, north rm.

For related records, see entries 32, 33.

28. **MISCELLANEOUS LIEN BOOK, 1934—.** 1 vol. (10). 1920-34 in Conditional Sales of Personal Property, entry 27.

Liens on property for which money is due show vendor, vendee, date of contract, date of docketing, purchase price, description, when satisfied. Indexed by vendor and vendee. Typed. 248 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

For other mechanics liens, see entries 29, 30.

29. **MECHANICS LIENS, 1870-1920.** 1 vol. (1).

Name of lienor, lienee, date of contract, amount due, when and how payable, description of property, date of docketing, when satisfied. Indexed by lienor and lienee. Hdw. 325 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

For subsequent records, see entries 28, 30.

30. **MECHANICS LIENS AND CHATTEL MORTGAGES, 1930—.** 1 file box.

Original papers show name of lienor, lienee, date of contract, amount due, when and how payable, description of property, date of docketing, when satisfied. Arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For other mechanics liens, see entries 28, 29.

31. **CROP LIEN AND CROP MORTGAGE DOCKET, 1892—.** 2 vols. (1, 2). Title varies: Crop Lien Docket, 1892-1934.

Crop lien shows date of lien, on what crops, location of land on which crop is seeded, lienor, lienee, date of docketing, amount of lien; credits, date; amount discharged or paid, date, by whom; location of land and description of crops on which lien is given. Indexed by lienor and lienee. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 270 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

For related records, see entry 32.

32. CROP LIENS, 1928—. 3 file boxes. Title varies: Crop Liens and Conditional Sales, Releases, 1928-34. No title, 1936—. Original crop liens and conditional sales show date of lien, lienor, lienee, conditions, date of docketing, amount of lien; credits, date; discharged or paid, by whom. Arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.
For related records, see entries 27, 31, 33.

33. [CONDITIONAL SALES AGREEMENTS], 1923-25. 1 drawer. Original conditional sales agreements, receipts, and correspondence authorizing powers of release and in reference to conditional sales. No index. 5 x 20 x 17. Clk. off., west rm.
For related records, see entries 27, 32.

34. CONTRACT OF SALE, 1889-1902. 1 vol. Shows date of contract, vendor, vendee, description of property, amount due, date of record, remarks. Indexed by name of vendor and vendee. Hdw. on printed forms. 127 pp. 18 x 11½ x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

Fiduciary Records

(See also entry 55)

35. CLERK'S ORDER BOOK, 1904—. 3 vols. (1-3). Clerk's records of wills, administrators, guardians and bonds, and appraisors. Indexed by name of parties. 1904-35 hdw. with typed passages; 1936—typed. Aver. 336 pp. 16 x 12 x 2½. 1 vol., 1904-22, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1922-35, east rm.; 1 vol., 1936—, center rm.

36. RECORD OF FIDUCIARIES, 1850-64. 1 vol. (1). List of fiduciaries showing names of fiduciaries and character in which they act, names of decedents whose estates are represented, names of living persons for whom fiduciaries act, guardian, curator or committees, penalty of bond, names of sureties, date of order conferring and revoking authority. Indexed by fiduciaries, decedents, or heirs. Hdw. on printed forms. 175 pp. 17½ x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

37. HAROLD M. COLE, EX'OR (Executor) IN ACCOUNT WITH THE ESTATE OF FRANK M. COLE, 1936. 1 vol. List of securities and other assets of this estate. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 12 x 8 x 3¾. Clk. off., west rm.

38. WALTER N. PERDUE, EXECUTOR IN ACCOUNT WITH SAMUEL A. PERDUE'S ESTATE, 1922-29. 1 vol. Miscellaneous letters concerning settlement of the estate. No index. Hdw. and typed. 200 pp. 12 x 8 x ¾. Clk. off., west rm.

County Clerk—Wills

(39-44)

39. W. C. GILL ESTATE, 1922. 1 file box.

Papers referring to Gill estate, containing correspondence, accounts and settlements. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

40. [S. A. PERDUE, EXECUTOR FOR C. N. FRIEND ESTATE—CHECK STUBS], 1919-26. 1 vol.

Check stubs show date, to whom payable, on what bank drawn, amount, and signature. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. 9 x 13 x ½. Clk. off., west rm.

41. [MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS DELIVERED TO CLERK BY ADMINISTRATOR OF J. R. COUSINS], 1918-19. 1 bundle.

Certain miscellaneous papers regarding settlement of the estate. No index. 9 x 5 x 3. Clk. off., west rm.

42. THOMAS E. CARPENTER'S EXECUTORS' ACCOUNTS, 1895-98. 1 vol.

Itemized list of properties and appraisals thereof. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 12 x 7½ x ½. Clk. off., west rm.

Wills

43. WILL BOOK, 1749—. 36 vols. (1-36) and 14 photostatic vols. (2 copies each of vol. 1, pt. 1, vol. 1, pt. 2; vol. 2; vol. 3, pt. 1, vol. 3, pt. 2; vol. 4, pt. 1, vol. 4, pt. 2).

Copies of bequests of real, personal, slave property; accounts of sales, income, overseers of poor; appointment of appraisers, administrators, guardians; administrators' accounts; inventory of estates; administrators' bonds; sheriffs' sale; inquest on body; poll for election of electoral college. Vols. 1-3, 5, 7, 9-12, 14, 15, 18-21, 24 inserted booklet index to testator and decedent; vols. 4, 6, 8, 13, 23, 25-36 indexed by testator and decedent; vols. 16, 17, 22 no self-contained index. Also separate index, 1796—, entry 44. 1749-96 photostated; 1749-1910 hdw.; 1910-31 hdw. and typed passages; 1931— typed. Aver. 600 pp. 17 x 13 x 3. 7 photostat vols., 1749-96, V. S. L., archives reading-rm.; 42 vols., 1749-1934, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1934—, east rm.

For wills recorded by circuit court, see entry 195.

44. INDEX TO WILLS, 1796—. 1 vol.

Index to will book 5-36 shows name of testator, appraiser, bondsman, list of heirs, book, and page number. Hdw. 600 pp. 15 x 10 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

County Clerk—Bonds

(45-50)

45. WILLS, INVENTORIES, ADMINISTRATORS' ACCOUNTS, ETC., 1749—. 62 file boxes (1 labeled Prior to Revolution; 61 dated).

Original wills, accounts, administrations. Files dated but not arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For other wills, see entry 47.

46. UNRECORDED WILLS, PAPERS FILED FOR COSTS, ETC., 1932—. 1 file box.

Bequests, appointment of administrators, unrecorded wills and papers filed for costs. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

47. OLD WILLS AND DEEDS LEFT WITH CLERK, 1870—. 1 file box.

Old wills and deeds left with clerk to be recorded. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For other deeds, see entry 84; for other wills, see entry 45.

48. JAMES DUNLOP WILL, not dated. 1 file box. Inaccessible.

A sealed package. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

Bonds

49. BOND BOOK, 1850—. 23 vols. (1, 2, 2, 3-6, 9; 15 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Official Bonds, 1873-89; Fiduciary Bonds, Bond Book, 1870-73.

Bonds given for various things: felony, game warden, guardian, administrator, commissioner of the court, overseer of poor, commissioner of revenue, special policeman, overseer of roads, and notary public. Bonds show principal, surety, date, amount, condition of obligation, and signatures. Also contains Forthcoming Bond Book, 1925—, entry 54. Fiduciary bonds indexed by decedents, other bonds by bondsman; 1850-56, 1868-89 no index; 1856-66, 1870-79 inserted booklet index; 1874-77, 1890— attached index. 1850-56 hdw.; 1856—. hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 225 pp. 14 x 9 x 2. 21 vols., 1850-1932, clk. off., north rm.; 2 vols., 1932—, west rm.

For other commissioners' bonds, see entry 51.

50. RECORD OF BONDS, 1889—. 8 vols.

Copies of bonds in bond book for guardians, executors, administrators, notaries public, and overseers of the poor show principal, sureties, date, amount, condition of obligation, and signatures. Indexed by bondsman; 1889-1904 inserted booklet index, 1904— attached index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 384 pp. 14 x 9 x 3. 1889-1931, clk. off., north rm.; 1931—, west rm.

County Clerk—Bonds

(51-57)

51. COMMISSIONERS' BOND BOOK, 1890—. 2 vols. Title varies: Special Commissioner's Bonds, 1937—.

Shows parties' names, amount, seal, date, oath, name of clerk of court, teste. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 600 pp. 14 x 9 x 3. Clk. off., center rm. For other commissioners' bonds, see entry 49.

52. BOND OR POLICY REGISTER, 1920—. 2 vols.

Register of officer's bonds show beginning and ending date of terms, to whom applications sent, name and address, character of bond, to whom due, penalty of bond, premium, date paid, remarks. Indexed by party giving bond. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. 8 x 14 x 1/2. Clk. off., west rm.

53. [CORRESPONDENCE IN REFERENCE TO BOND REGISTRY], 1920—. 1 drawer.

Miscellaneous correspondence in reference to bond registry. No index. 5 x 20 x 16. Clk. off., west rm.

54. FORTHCOMING BOND BOOK, 1896-1925. 1 vol. 1925— in Bond Book, entry 49.

Bonds, given to the sheriff for property to be produced when required, show date of bond, name of obligor, obligee, amount of penalty, amount to discharge penalty, return on bond endorsed. Indexed by obligor and obligee. Hdw. on printed forms. 75 pp. 18 x 12 x 1/2. Clk. off., north rm.

55. [FIDUCIARY BONDS AND ACCOUNTS], 1750-1804, 1815-1903. 8 file boxes (A-Z).

Administrators', guardians', and executors' bonds, accounts, reports and vouchers. Arr. alph. by fiduciaries. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

56. [BONDS], 1749-1874. 4 file boxes.

Bonds of administrators, executors, inspectors, delivery keeper, license, appointments. Also contains [Circuit Court Subpoenas], 1846-50, entry 176. Dated but not arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

57. SHERIFF'S BONDS, 1778-1841, COUNTY CHECKS 1913, COUNTY BONDS CALLED IN 1922. 1778-1841, 1913, 1922. 1 file box.

Sheriff's official bonds, 1778-1841, show name, surety, date, amount, condition of obligation, and clerk's teste. County checks, 1913, show date, to whom payable, amount, on what bank written, signature. Also contains [County Bonds Called In], 1922, entry 22. Arr. by type of record. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For other county checks, see entry 307.

Fees

(See also entry 123)

58. CHANCERY FEE BOOK, 1919—. 1 vol.

List of clerk's fees in chancery suits showing name, date, item, and amount of fee. Index by parties. Hdw. 300 pp. 17 x 8 x 2. Clk. off., center rm.

For other fees, see entry 60.

59. FEES (Common Law), 1918—. 1 vol.

List of clerk's fees in common law causes showing name, date, item and amount of fee. Indexed by parties. Hdw. 400 pp. 15½ x 7 x 1½. Clk. off., center rm.

For other fees, see entry 60.

60. FEE BOOK, 1802-3, 1811-25, 1832-34, 1846-1925. 25 vols.
Title varies: Clerk's Fees, 1903-5. No title, 1867-75, 1884-1920.

Fees charged attorneys and cash accounts, lists of clerk's fees in common law causes and chancery suits. 1847-74, 1867-75, 1881-98, 1903-5, 1915-18 not indexed; 1867-75, 1884-92 alph. arr. by parties; 1875-1925 indexed by parties. 1847-1915, 1918-25 hdw.; 1915-18 hdw. on printed forms. 265 pp. 17 x 8 x 2. 10 vols., 1802-3, 1811-25, 1832-34, 1846-74, So. Rich. storage; 2 vols., 1867-75, clk. off., north rm.; 12 vols., 1875-1920, center rm.; 1 vol., 1905-25, west rm.

For other fees, see entries 58 and 59.

61. DAY BOOK—RECORD OF ALL TAXES AND FEES RECEIVED OR COLLECTED BY THE CLERK (inside title), 1876-83, 1898-1902, 1904—. 15 vols. (1-9; 6 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Clerk's Receipt Book, 1914-19; Record of Taxes, 1876-83, 1898-1902, 1904-17. No title 1918—.

Record of all taxes and fees received by the clerk. Shows deeds, contracts, and other writings recorded in the deed book, sheet number, when recorded, names of parties, number, tax, clerk's fees, transfer fee for commissioner of revenue. These are accounts and monthly summaries of fees and taxes collected by the clerk on (1) deeds, contracts, and other writings; (2) wills; (3) administrations; (4) chancery suits; (5) actions at law and motions; (6) removal and appeal warrants; (7) fines and forfeited recognizances, prohibition cases; (8) costs, prohibition cases, sale of forfeited property, other than prohibition cases; (9) fines and forfeited recognizances, other than prohibition cases; (10) costs, other than prohibition cases; (11) sale of forfeited property other than prohibition cases; (12) taxes, capitation, personal property, real estate redemption and sales; (13) penalty; (14) interest. Arr. by subject. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 145 pp. 12½ x 10½ x 1½. 5 vols., 1876-83, 1898-1902, 1904-19, clk. off., north rm.; 8 vols., 1919-35, center rm.; 2 vols., 1934—, west rm.

62. REPORTS OF FEES TO CLERK OF COURT, 1929—. 2 file boxes. Reports of officers' fees show name, date, item, and amount of fee. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

Fines

(See also entry 61)

63. VIRGINIA FINES AND COSTS — OFFICIAL RECEIPT FORM (Stubs), 1912, 1914, 1919, 1921-29. 43 vols.

Official receipts showing date, fine, cost, total, name of person fined, name of person to whom receipt given, name of person making payment, signature of person receiving receipt, witness to signature. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. 6 x 4 x 1/4. 5 vols., 1912-14, 1919, 1921-22, clk. off., center rm.; 8 vols., 1922-29, west rm.; 30 vols., 1923-25, east rm.

64. STUBS OF STATE FINES AND COSTS, 1924-29. 1 file box. Shows name, date, number, fine, cost. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

65. CLERK'S RECEIPT BOOK FOR COUNTY FINES (Stubs), 1922-25. 3 vols.

Shows date, name of defendant, amount of fine and cost. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 3 x 11 x 1/2. Clk. off., west rm.

General Accounts

66. CLERK'S PERSONAL RECORD OF ACCOUNTS, 1933—. 3 vols. Clerk's record of accounts, and fees collected showing amounts collected, from whom, and date collected. No index. Hdw. Aver. 250 pp. 12 x 8 x 1. Clk. off., east rm.

67. [CLERK'S ACCOUNTS], 1902—. 5 vols. 1899-1912 in [Applications Filed Against Parties Under Delinquent Tax Law], entry 128.

Charge accounts to reliable firms for recording of wills and deeds. 1902-23 not indexed; 1924— indexed by parties. Hdw. Aver. 268 pp. 12 1/2 x 8 x 1. Clk. off., west rm.

68. CLERK'S RECEIPT BOOK (Cash and Account Book), 1869-1900, 1907-18. 11 vols. Discontinued; method too cumbersome.

Clerk's memorandum of suits, notes of court orders, cash received for fees, tax on deeds. The clerk kept a record of all fees collected, and deducted those fees due but not collected for non-taxation. 1869-99, 1907-14 not indexed; 1884-92, 1898-1900, 1914-18 indexed by subject. Hdw. Paper in poor condition. Pages 1-48 missing in vol. 1869-82. Aver. 297 pp. 17 x 7 x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

County Clerk—Witness and Juror Accounts

(69-76)

69. MONTHLY REPORT OF COLLECTIONS OF STATE MONIES BY CLERKS OF COURTS, 1936—. 1 drawer.

Collections of money by clerk for deeds, liens, and wills. Arr. chron. 5 x 20 x 16. Clk. off., west rm.

70. COPIES OF REPORTS TO COUNTY TREASURER OF MONTHLY COLLECTIONS, 1929—. 1 file box.

Clerk's copies of reports of monthly collections to county treasurer of fees from deeds, and transfers of lots and lands. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

71. [RECEIPTS FROM STATE AUDITOR TO CLERK FOR MONEYS PAID], 1902-10. 1 file box.

Receipts from state auditor to clerk for moneys paid him for delinquent state taxes. No index. 3½ x 4½ x 8½. Clk. off., north rm.

72. ACCOUNTS WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, 1868-79. 1 vol.

Accounts of the clerk with commonwealth for fines and taxes collected by him. No index. Hdw. 105 pp. 17 x 11 x ½. Clk. off., east rm.

73. STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AND OLD CHECKS, 1934. 1 file box.

Bank balances show date, deposit, withdrawals and balance; checks show date, number, payee, amount, purpose, signature, and bank. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For other checks, see entries 74, 144.

74. [CLERK'S DEPOSIT SLIPS AND PAID CHECKS], 1904-7. 1 drawer.

Clerk's deposit slips show bank, date, depositor, and itemized list of funds. Checks show date, number, payee, amount, purpose, signature, and bank. No index. 5 x 20 x 16. Clk. off., west rm.

For other records, see entries 73, 144.

75. GRAND JURY (Receipts of M. A. Cogbill, County Clerk), 1879-80. 1 file box.

Receipted bills to M. A. Cogbill. Contains nothing in reference to grand jury. No index. 3½ x 4½ x 8½. Clk. off., north rm.

Witness and Juror Accounts

76. [FELONY CERTIFICATE OF WITNESS ATTENDANCE—STUBS], 1915-22, 1925—. 34 vols.

Shows certificate number, date of term, to whom issued, style of case, number days attended, miles traveled, total, date allowed. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 14 x 4 x ¾. Clk. off., west rm.

County Clerk—Deeds

(77-81)

77. [MISDEMEANOR WITNESS ATTENDANCE — STUBS], 1915-27, 1931-32, 1934. 15 vols.

Shows certificate number, date of term, to whom issued, style of case, number days attended, miles traveled, total, date allowed. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 75 pp. 14 x 4 x $\frac{3}{8}$. Clk. off., west rm.

78. [PROHIBITION WITNESS ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE—STUBS], 1922-27, 1930. 4 vols.

Shows certificate number, date of term, to whom issued, style of case, number of days attended, miles traveled, total, date allowed. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 14 x 4 x $\frac{3}{8}$. Clk. off., west rm.

79. [TRIAL JUROR CERTIFICATES—STUBS], 1915—. 32 vols.

Shows certificate number, date of term, when issued, style of case, number days attended, miles traveled, total, date allowed. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. 14 x 4 x $\frac{3}{8}$. Clk. off., west rm.

Deeds

80. DEED BOOK, 1749—. 229 vols. (1-228, 226A) and 6 photostated vols. (2 copies each of vol. 1, pt. 1, vol. 1, pt. 2).

Record of transfer or sale of land, slaves, live-stock, records of deeds of gift, deeds of trust and mortgages, claim of homestead exemption, deed for right of way to utility companies; record of organization of corporations, allowing them to issue bonds; record of minutes of corporation resolving to buy property; record of county order to survey boundaries; filed list of heirs to certain properties, scattered plats. Vols. 1, 5, 7-10, 13, 18, 19, 26, 32, 33, 35-37, 40, 41, 47, 113-228 no self-contained index; vols. 2, 4, 6, 12, 14, 17, 20-25, 27, 30, 31, 44-46, 48-112 indexed by grantor and grantee; vols. 3, 11, 15, 16, 28, 29, 34, 38, 39, 42, 43 inserted booklet index to grantor and grantee; 1749—, also separate index, entry 81. 1749-55 photostated; 1749-1905 hdw.; 1905-30 alternately hdw. and typed; 1923 typed with printed passages; 1930— typed; 1935 printed railroad vol. Vols. 1-200 are bound; vols. 201-228 loose-leaf. Aver. 600 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. 3 photostat vols., 1749-55, V. S. L., archives reading-rm.; 232 vols., 1749—, clk. off., north rm.

For unrecorded deeds, see entry 83.

81. GENERAL INDEX TO DEEDS, 1749—. 19 vols. (grantor 1749-1913, A-Z; 1913-30, A-Z; 1931—, A-Z: grantee 1749-1913, A-Z; 1913-30, A-Z; 1931—, A-Z), and 3 copies (grantor and grantee, 1913-30, A-Z), and 1 discarded vol. (4, 1893-1905).

Shows date of records, kind of instrument, grantees, grantors, where recorded. Hdw. on printed forms. 600 pp. 18½ x 12 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

82. DAILY [INDEX FOR THE] RECEIPT OF DEEDS FOR RECORDATION, 1906-12. 2 vols. Discontinued; supplanted by loose-leaf deed books.

Shows grantor and grantee, when received, year, month, day, hour, kind of instrument. Arr. by grantor and grantee. Hdw. on printed forms. 240 pp. 16 x 11 x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

83. UNRECORDED DEEDS, 1937—. 1 file box.

Deeds not yet recorded in deed books. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For recorded deeds, see entry 80.

84. DEEDS, 1792—. 137 file boxes (3 files, 1937, A-Z and 233-235; others not labeled). Title varies: Old Deeds, 1792; Deeds and Power of Attorney, 1913; Deed Book, 1937.

Original deeds, release deeds, and power of attorney. 1792-1936 arr. chron. and alph. by grantor; 1937— arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For other deeds, see entry 47; for other powers of attorney, see entry 133.

85. VIRGINIA RAILWAY AND POWER DEEDS, 1936—. 1 file box.

Deeds of Virginia Railway and Power Company properties. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

86. A. C. L. R. R. (Atlantic Coast Line Railroad) to U. S. TRUST COMPANY, NEW YORK, DEEDS, 1914. 1 file box.

Deeds referring to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

87. DEEDS AND PAPERS FILED FOR COSTS, 1920—. 1 file box.

Deeds and papers filed and not paid for. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

88. RELEASE DEEDS, 1884—. 20 vols. (1-20).

Record of releases on deeds, promissory notes, and property upon the meeting of obligations. Records of individuals waiving right of homestead exemption. Vols. 1-18 bound; vols. 19, 20 loose-leaf. Indexed by grantor and grantee. 1920—, also separate index, entry 89. 1884-1905 hdw.; 1905— hdw. with typed passages. 500 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

For unrecorded release deeds, see entry 90.

89. GENERAL INDEX TO RELEASE DEEDS, CURRENT, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VA., 1920—. 1 vol.

Shows grantor, grantee, date, book and page number. Arr. by grantor and grantee. Hdw. on printed forms. 500 pp. 15 x 12 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

County Clerk—Deeds

(90-97)

90. UNRECORDED RELEASE DEEDS, 1937—. 1 file box.

Original release deeds which have not yet been recorded in release deed book. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For recorded release deeds, see entry 88.

91. DEEDS OF RELEASE, 1937—. 1 file box (20).

Original release deeds not called for. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

92. LIST OF TRUST DEEDS, 1898—. 2 vols. (1 vol. not numbered, 2).

List of all deeds of trust and mortgages to secure the payment of debts which have been admitted to record in the clerk's office of the county court within the year showing date of deed, when recorded, grantors, creditors, amount of debt secured, name of property conveyed, remarks. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 199 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

93. ABSTRACTS OF DEEDS, 1896—. 4 file boxes.

Abstracts made by clerk of deeds to all land in the county. Arr. numerically. Map of county, entry 94, serves as key to file. 16 x 11½ x 25. Clk. off., north rm.

94. MAP—CHESTERFIELD COUNTY SHOWING DISTRICTS, 1888. 2 copies.

Land tenure map, marked off into sections and numbered to correspond to the abstracts of deeds, serves as a key to the abstracts, entry 93. J. E. La Prade, county engineer, Richmond, Virginia. Printed and ruled with red ink. Scale 1 to 47520. 40 x 54. Clk. off., north rm.

95. ABSTRACTS OF TITLE, 1935—. 1 file box.

Abstracts of titles show complete synopsis of transfer of land from original to present owner. No index. 14 x 9 x 1½. Clk. off., center rm.

96. LIST OF DEEDS, 1933. 1 bundle.

Shows date of deed, when admitted to record, grantor, grantee, white or colored, amount, value, amount of recordation tax, description of land. No index. 15 x 1 x 2. Clk. off., east rm.

97. LAND TRANSFER BOOK, 1896—. 7 vols. Title varies: List of Transfers, 1913-19. No title, 1919-26.

Shows date of deed, when admitted to record, name of grantors and grantees, specified values, quantity, description of land, district, commissioner's fee. Arr. chron. and alph. by grantor. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 400 pp. 16 x 18 x 1. 6 vols., 1896-31, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1931—, east rm.

For related records, see entry 98.

98. SHERIFF W. C. GILL'S PAPERS (Land Transfers), 1932. 1 bundle.

Shows names from and to whom transferred, number of acres, district in which land is located. No index. 12 x 3 x 1½. Clk. off., east rm.

For related records, see entry 97.

Maps

(See also entry 94)

99. BERMUDA DISTRICT SHOWING VARIOUS TRACTS, MAY 28, 1928. 1 map.

Land tenure. W. W. LaPrade and Brothers, civil engineers and surveyors, Richmond, Virginia. Printed. Scale 1" equals 4000'. 18 x 18. Clk. off., north rm.

100. WOODLAND HEIGHTS, PROPERTY OF SOUTH SIDE LAND AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY TO BE RECORDED AT CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1889. 1 map.

Land tenure: also shows population of Manchester and Richmond, 1880-89, and route of Southside Electric Railway. A. Langstaff Johnston, civil engineer. Printed and colored. Scale 1" equals 300'. 30 x 40. Clk. off., north rm.

101. WESTOVER HILLS, GENERAL MAP OF SUBDIVISIONS A, B, C, D, E, 1928. 1 map.

Land tenure map shows roads already opened by county and roads not opened. Allen J. Saville, Incorporated, Richmond, Virginia. Printed and colored. Scale 1" equals 250'. 17 x 28. Clk. off., north rm.

102. SHOWING UNIT NO. 1 SUNSET MEMORIAL PARK IN CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1929. 1 map.

Cemetery map divided into lots. J. W. Pugh, engineer, Petersburg, Virginia. Framed blueprint. Scale 1" equals 20'. 21 x 32. Clk. off., center rm.

Judgments and Executions

(See also entries 180-85, 213, 214)

103. JUDGMENT DOCKET AND EXECUTIONS, 1843—. 9 vols. (1-9). Title varies: Judgment Docket, 1843-1916.

Judgment liens and executions from courts all over the state: circuit courts, trial justice courts, hustings courts, law and equity courts. Liens registered here on all owners of property. Shows date of judgment and docketing, court, parties, residence, judgment, suit, attorney, sheriff's return, cost, credits, date, nature of return, can homestead exemption be claimed, date of payment. 1843-67 inserted booklet index to plaintiff and defendant; 1867— in-

County Clerk—Licenses and Permits

(104-109)

dexed by plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 152 pp. 18 x 13 x 2½. Clk. off., north rm.

104. DOCKET OF EXECUTIONERS ISSUED AND RETURNED BY OFFICERS, 1871—. 2 vols. (1, 2).

Shows name and judgment, date of execution, when returned and docketed, return of constable, name of persons, date of fifa. (fieri facias), return in fifa. (fieri facias), plaintiff and defendant, amount of judgment, when obtained, officer's return. 1871-1928 inserted booklet index to plaintiff and defendant; 1928— indexed by plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 281 pp. 18 x 13 x 2½. 1 vol., 1871-1928, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1928—, east rm.

Licenses and Permits

105. RECORD OF LICENSES AND PERMITS SOLD, 1916—. 3 vols.
Title varies: Clerk's Record, Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Licenses and Button Record, 1928-33; Clerk's Record, Hunting and Fishing Licenses, 1916-27.

Shows date, name and address, age, color, serial number of license, classification, gross amount received. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 13 x 12 x ½. Clk. off., west rm.

For related records, see entries 106, 107.

106. [APPLICATIONS FOR HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES], 1936—. 1 file box.

Regular blanks filled in for hunting and fishing licenses showing date, to whom issued, address, age, color. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For related records, see entries 105, 107.

107. [HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING LICENSES], 1936—. 19 vols.

Stubs of state and county fishing, hunting, trapping licenses issued to residents and non-residents. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 25 pp. 7½ x 7½ x ¼. Clk. off., west rm.

For related records, see entries 105, 106.

108. BEER AND OTHER PRESCRIPTIONS, 1933. 1 file box.

Permits to sell beer and liquor. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

Registers

109. REGISTER OF CONVICTS, CHESTERFIELD, 1871—. 1 vol.

Register of every person convicted in the county court, or other court of record, of felony, larceny, murder, perjury, robbery, burglary, house-breaking, house-burning, car-breaking, rape. Shows name in full and alias,

present and last known residence, color, description, age, occupation, offense, court and date of conviction, information concerning further judgment. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. 16 x 10½ x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

110. PHYSICIANS AND DENTISTS REGISTER, 1894—. 1 vol.

Certificate of eligibility to practice medicine or dentistry issued by the state board of medical examiners shows name and oath of licensee, certificate of clerk. Indexed by name of licensee. Hdw. on printed forms. 75 pp. 16 x 11 x ½. Clk. off., north rm.

111. RECORD OF ESTRAYS, 1804-63, 1869-1905. 3 vols.

Shows description of lost property such as live-stock and boats, record of appraisal and name of finder. Also contains Freed Negroes Registered, 1804-53, entry 112. No index. Hdw. Aver. 75 pp. 11 x 8 x 1. 2 vols., 1804-30, 1869-1905, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1831-63, So. Rich. storage.

112. FREED NEGROES REGISTERED, 1853. 1 vol. (3). 1804-53 in Record of Estrays, entry 111.

A list of free negroes and mulattoes registered in the clerk's office. Shows date of register, number, for sale, names, age, color, stature, description of marks, how freed. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 50 pp. 13 x 10 x 1. So. Rich. storage.

113. MUSTER ROLL, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, IN THE WAR IN DEFENSE OF VIRGINIA, 1861-65. 1 vol.

Short biographies of the officers that served from Chesterfield County. Photographs of some of the officers, newspaper pictures of others. Shows names, when and where mustered, by whom, when company was mustered in, remarks. Muster Roll of Captain John Gregory's company, War of 1812, is at the back of the book. No index, but a table of contents. Hdw., typed, and printed; few hdw. forms. 401 pp. 17 x 14 x 2½. Clk. off., north rm.

Business Records

114. CHARTERS OF INCORPORATE COMPANIES, 1873—. 1 vol.

Copies of charters show name of corporation, address of main office, names and addresses of officers, kinds and amounts of stock, purpose, by-laws of corporation, and date issued. No index. Hdw. with some typed passages. 384 pp. 15½ x 11½ x 2½. Clk. off., north rm.

115. CERTIFICATES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF CORPORATIONS, ETC., 1903—. 1 file box.

Original papers for dissolutions of corporations, revocation of charters, certificates of officers and directors of corporations, certificates of partnerships. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

116. RECORD OF PARTNERSHIPS, 1927—. 1 vol. (1).

Copies of partnership agreements show name of partners, name of firm, location of business. Indexed by partnerships. Hdw. 211 pp. 16 x 11 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

Vital Statistics

(State Bureau of Vital Statistics formed 1912. Existing county birth and death certificates from 1853— deposited with this bureau.)

117. MARRIAGE REGISTER, 1853—. 7 vols. (1-7).

Shows license to marry, date of marriage, names of parties, age of parties, condition before marriage, place of birth, place of residence, names of parents, occupation of husband, name of person performing ceremony. Vol. 6 at the back contains a list of amounts collected from marriage licenses. 1853-1902 indexed by husband; 1902— by contracting parties. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 328 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. 6 vols., 1853-1931, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1931—, west rm.

For prior records, see entry 119.

118. MARRIAGE LICENSE, 1855—. 23 file boxes.

Marriage licenses that have already been recorded. Arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. 22 files, 1855-1935, clk. off., north rm.; 1 file, 1936—, center rm.

119. MARRIAGE REGISTER (Marriage Bonds and Papers), 1771-1853. 1 vol. and 2 photostat copies (pt. 1 and 2).

Shows date of bond, name of husband, name of wife, parents or guardian of husband, parents or guardian of wife, security and witnesses, minister. The minister column has not been filled in. Some marriages are undated. Manuscript volume compiled in state library from original marriage bonds and accompanying papers. Hdw. and photostat. 249 pp. 14 x 19 x 2. 2 photostat vols., clk. off., north rm.; original vol., V. S. L., archives reading-rm.

For subsequent records, see entry 117.

120. INDEX TO MARRIAGE REGISTER, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1771-1853. 1 vol. and 1 photostat copy.

Shows contracting parties and page number. Arr. by contracting parties. Typed and photostated. 252 pp. 14½ x 10½ x 2½. Photostat copy, clk. off., north rm.; original, V. S. L., archives reading-rm.

121. CHESTERFIELD MARRIAGE BONDS, 1771-1854. 18 file boxes.

Shows names of parties, witnesses, date, parents' names, age, residence. Arr. chron. 14 x 12 x 1½. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

122. AFFIDAVITS AND APPLICATIONS FOR MARRIAGE LICENSES, 1932. 2 file boxes.

Affidavits of parents or guardians giving consent and age of applicants.

County Clerk—Delinquent Taxes

(123-128)

Applications show name, color, age, residence. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

123. OLD MARRIAGE RECORDS, INDEX, ETC., CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA, 1772-1862. 1 vol. and 1 photostat copy. Original vol. without title; photostat vol. bears above title.

Contains list of ministers' returns, 1772-1850; list of marriage licenses issued by clerk, July 1, 1850-60; clerk's certificates of marriages, 1850-53; list of clerk's fees for issuing marriage licenses, recording wills, deeds, and free papers, 1856-62. Arr. by name of husband. No index. Original vol. hdw.; other photostat. 100 pp. 16 x 11 x $\frac{3}{4}$. Clk. off., north rm.

For other ministers' returns, see entry 124.

124. CHESTERFIELD COUNTY MINISTERS' RETURNS, 1780-1854. 2 file boxes.

Ministers' original returns of parties married by him. No index. 14 x 12 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

For other ministers' returns, see entry 123.

125. REGISTER OF DEATHS, 1855-70. 1 vol. Discontinued.

Shows name in full, race, free or slave, name of owner of slave, sex, date of death, place of death, age, names of parents, consort of or unmarried, sources of information. Each page contains an aver. of 41 names. Arr. chron. for upper and lower districts. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 56 pp. 20 x 14 x $2\frac{1}{2}$. Clk. off., north rm.

Delinquent Taxes

(See also entries 320-40)

126. SUMMONS TO ANSWER INTERROGATORIES, 1936—. 1 file box. Summons to answer interrogatories show date, time and place at which to appear, name, and purpose. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

127. APPLICATIONS TO PURCHASE DELINQUENT LANDS, ETC., 1895-1908, 1911—. 4 file boxes.

Original applications to purchase delinquent lands, orders dispensing with survey of lands, requisites of tax deeds. Dated but not arr. chron. Aver. 13 x 5 x 17. 2 files, 1895-1906, 1911—, clk. off., west rm.; 2 files, 1898-99, 1906-8, north rm.

128. [APPLICATIONS FILED AGAINST PARTIES UNDER DELINQUENT TAX LAWS], 1898-1912. 1 vol.

Applications to clerk to purchase delinquent lands, 1898-99, show date, applicant, and location and description of land applied for. Also contains [Clerk's Accounts], 1899-1912, entry 67. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 12 x 8 x $\frac{3}{4}$. Clk. off., west rm.

129. DELINQUENT LAND TAX RECEIPTS, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1925—. 3 vols.

Shows number, date, name of property owner, description of property, years delinquent, state principal and interest, county principal and interest, redemption fee. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 250 pp. 16 x 11 x 2. 2 vols., 1925-34, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1934—, west rm.

130. [STUBS OF CLERK'S RECEIPTS FOR LAND SOLD BY TREASURER FOR NON-PAYMENT OF TAXES], 1898-99. 1 vol.

Shows date, number, name, description, state principal and interest, county principal and interest. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 19 x 11 x 1¼. Clk. off., center rm.

131. [MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE ABOUT TAXES], 1927, 1934. 1 letter file.

Correspondence in reference to taxes, statements of delinquent taxes. No index. 12 x 12 x 3. Clk. off., west rm.

Miscellaneous

132. RECEIPTS FOR CHANCERY PAPERS, 1880-1922, 1924—. 2 vols.

Receipts for chancery papers loaned to lawyers showing name and date. Arr. chron. Hdw. 120 pp. 9½ x 8 x ½. Clk. off., center rm.

133. POWERS OF ATTORNEY, 1928—. 2 file boxes.

Instruments conferring the authority to act as attorney in fact of the persons granting it. Arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For other powers of attorney, see entry 84.

134. GRAND JURY FOR 1906 AND 1907. 1887-1907. 1 file box.

Lists of grand jurors. No index. 3½ x 4½ x 8½. Clk. off., north rm.

135. AFFIDAVITS AS TO LOST NOTES, 1933-34. 1 file box.

Sworn statements as to legal provisions of the lost notes. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

136. OATHS OF OFFICE OF VARIOUS OFFICERS, 1915-20. 1 file box.

Oaths of offices of justices, sheriffs, constables, and commissioners. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

137. CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE, undated. 1 file box.

Shows name of candidate, office, political affiliations. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

Circuit Court

(138-145)

138. M. A. COGBILL SALE BOOK (Auctioneer's Account of Sales), 1894-96. 2 vols. Title varies: Counter Book, 1894-95. List of articles, prices, and party to whom sold. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. 11 x 5 x 1/2. 1 vol., 1894-95, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1896, west rm.

139. CHURCH PAPERS AND LODGE, 1892-1929. 1 file box. Sale of church lands and appointment of commissioners for church property. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

140. INSURANCE, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, AND PHILIP V. COGBILL INSURANCE, 1935. 1 file box. Insurance policies. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

141. APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT ON STATE HIGHWAYS, 1929-31. 1 file box. Inaccessible. Applications for employment on state highways. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

142. [CLERK'S MEMORANDUM BOOK], 1903, 1918-21, 1927—. 11 vols. Notations of entries to be made in other books by clerk. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 13 x 8 x 3/4. 10 vols., 1903, 1927—, clk. off., east rm.; 1 vol., 1918-21, north rm.

143. [CLERK'S PRIVATE LETTERS], 1924-29. 12 file boxes. 1915-21 in Court and Board Orders, entry 3. Letters to clerk and replies by him. Indexed by subject. 12 x 12 x 3. Clk. off., east rm.

144. [MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS], 1889-1900, 1923, 1930. 1 drawer, 1 bundle, and 25 pigeon-holes. Paid checks, deposit slips, correspondence in reference to fire insurance and supplies, old contracts, and declarations. Arr. by subject. Drawer 12 x 11 1/2 x 3; bundle 5 x 20 x 17; pigeon-hole 3 x 4 x 9. 1889-1900, 1930—, clk. off., west rm.; 1923, center rm.

For other checks and deposit slips, see entries 73, 74.

145. [CLERK'S FORMS], undated. 1 vol. A book of sample forms sent to clerk as a guide in writing or recording all legal papers. Clerk's forms and samples citing cases. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 100 pp. 12 x 8 x 1 1/2. Clk. off., north rm.

III. CIRCUIT COURT

The period of the evolution of the circuit court as a county institution has been confined to the period of statehood. During colonial

days, cases were appealed directly from the county court to the governor and council sitting as the general court. Under the first state constitution, the *Form of Government* of June 29, 1776, the general court was continued but its members were chosen by the general assembly instead of by the king. In 1788 district courts of law were established with appellate jurisdiction over the county courts in common law cases.¹ A decade previously, a high court of chancery had been established with similar jurisdiction in chancery cases.² In 1802 this chancery court was replaced by four superior courts of chancery located at convenient points in the state thus making appeals easier and less expensive.³

In 1809 the professional courts were brought still closer to the people by the establishment of a superior court of law in each county to replace the district courts of law.⁴ In 1831 the district superior courts of chancery and the superior courts of law were combined to form a circuit superior court of law and chancery in each county. With the passage of time, this awkward title was shortened to "circuit court." These courts were held twice a year in each county by the district member of the general court.⁵ By the constitution of 1851 the circuit court judge was elected by the people of his circuit for an eight year term. Since 1869, he has been appointed by the general assembly.⁶ These courts were granted original jurisdiction concurrent with that of the county courts and, in addition, they had appellate jurisdiction in all civil cases involving more than fifty dollars and in criminal cases not "expressly cognizable in some other court" of which there were apparently very few. Further, they were granted jurisdiction in criminal cases involving "loss of life" which jurisdiction had always been denied the county courts.⁷ In 1873 the circuit court was given exclusive jurisdiction of chancery cases.⁸

Little change was made in the jurisdiction of the circuit courts until the constitution of 1902 and the enabling acts abolished the county courts entirely and granted all their powers to the circuit courts. Since

1. Hen., XII, p. 730.

2. *Ibid.*, IX, p. 389.

3. Shepherd, II, pp. 320-22.

4. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 355-60.

5. *Acts* 1830-31, pp. 42, 46.

6. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 6; *Const.* 1869, art. vi, sec. 11; *Const.* 1902, art. vi, sec. 96.

7. *Acts* 1830-31, pp. 47-48.

8. *Acts* 1872-73, pp. 383-84.

February 1904, these courts have had original jurisdiction in all matters except petty suits and misdemeanors which lay within the jurisdiction of the individual justices of the peace and, more recently, of the trial justices. The court has, however, appellate jurisdiction in these petty matters.⁹ The county clerk serves as recording agent for the court.

Procedure

146. CHANCERY RULE BOOK—CHANCERY RULES, 1874—. 3 vols. Shows attorneys, parties' names, actions. 1874-1902 not indexed; 1902—indexed by parties. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 116 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

147. CIRCUIT COURT CHANCERY RULE DOCKET, 1831-67, 1883-1923. 3 vols. (1, 2, 1 vol. not numbered). No title, 1883-1923. 1809-48 in Superior Court Office Judgments, entry 182. Shows state of causes, attorneys for plaintiff, attorneys for defendant, parties' names, rules for the twelve months. Indexed by plaintiff vs. defendant. Hdw. Aver. 200 pp. 13 x 13 x 1¼. Clk. off., north rm.

148. CURRENT CHANCERY DOCKET, 1930-34. 1 vol. Discontinued; required too much time. Shows parties' names, attorneys, style of suit, memoranda of orders and proceedings, clerk's fees. Indexed by plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 104 pp. 12½ x 10 x 2. Clk. off., east rm.

149. ARGUMENT DOCKET, 1853-1908. 1 vol. Discontinued. Shows name of attorneys, parties, and style of suit. Indexed by parties. Hdw. 200 pp. 13½ x 10 x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

150. CIRCUIT COURT ISSUE DOCKET, 1809-18, 1833-99. 5 vols. Motions, appeals, civil causes, writs of enquiry, office judgments showing attorneys, species of execution, parties' names, amount, date, county, return day, to whom delivered, sheriff's return. 1809-18, 1842-61 indexed by plaintiff; 1833-69 inserted booklet index to plaintiff; 1869-99 not indexed. Hdw. Aver. 200 pp. 15 x 10 x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

151. CIRCUIT COURT CHANCERY ORDERS, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1831—. 16 vols. (1-16). Copies of petitions, answers, orders, and decrees in chancery; also wills proved with appointment of administrators, executors, and guardians showing their qualifications; petitions to sell real estate and church lands; ap-

9. *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 626, 830-31; *Acts* 1936, pp. 615 ff.

pointments, qualifications, and reports of court commissioners. Vols. 1-6, 8 inserted booklet index to plaintiff and defendant; 7-16 indexed by plaintiff and defendant. 1831-1915 hdw.; 1915-30 hdw. with typed passages; 1930—typed. Aver. 573 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. 15 vols., 1831-1933, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1933—, east rm.

152. CHANCERY PROCESS BOOK (Circuit Superior Court and Circuit Court), 1831-82, 1923—. 2 vols. (1, 2).

Subpoenas, injunctions, and attachments show parties' names, kind of process, date, return day, when issued, to whom delivered or enclosed, attorneys for plaintiff and defendant, to what rules returnable, to what county or city directed, officers' returns. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 151 pp. 14½ x 10 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

153. COMMON LAW RULES, CIRCUIT COURT, 1874—. 2 vols.

Shows returns, plaintiff's attorney, defendant's attorney, parties' names, action, rules. 1874-1916 inserted booklet index to parties; 1917—indexed by parties. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 183 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

154. COMMON LAW RULE DOCKET, CIRCUIT COURT, 1823-57, 1893-1911. 4 vols. (1, 2, 2 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Common Law Rule Docket, 1823-44.

Cases concerning debt, trespass, and leases showing attorneys, parties' names, actions, sheriff's returns, bail, April, May, June, July, August, September, October. Vol. 1831-44 has a booklet of explanatory notes. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 165 pp. 17 x 11 x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

155. COMMON LAW DOCKET, 1934—. 1 bundle.

Original typed docket showing list of cases, names of parties, attorneys, title of suit, fees and cost, orders and proceedings, serving of process, and proceedings at rules. No index. 14 x 4 x 2. Clk. off., east rm.

156. COMMON LAW ORDER BOOK (Circuit Superior and Circuit Court), 1831—. 16 vols. (1-16). Title varies: Circuit Superior Court Law and Chancery, 1831-47; Circuit Court Common Law, Circuit Superior Court—Law and Chancery, 1847-55.

Contains orders concerning suits of debt, divorces, granting citizenship, oaths of attorney at law, trials by jury for larceny, cases of unlawfully permitting meetings of negroes, sheriff's oaths to isolate jury during trial. Vols. 1-6 inserted booklet index by plaintiff and defendant; vols. 7-16 indexed by plaintiff vs. defendant. 1831-1915 hdw.; 1915-30 hdw. with typed passages; 1930—typed. Aver. 515 pp. 18 x 12 x 2½. Vols. 1-15, 1831-1934, clk. off., north rm.; vol. 16, 1934—, east rm.

For prior records, see entry 157.

Circuit Court—Court Papers

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157. SUPERIOR COURT OF LAW ORDER BOOK, 1809-31. 3 vols. (1-3).

Court orders concerning judgments, libel, contempt of court, trespassing, assault and battery, failure to attend court when summoned, debt, sale of spirituous liquor without license, bond of arbitrators, detention of slaves, appealed cases. Inserted booklet index by plaintiff vs. defendant. Hdw. Aver. 507 pp. 16 x 11 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

For subsequent records, see entry 156.

158. CIRCUIT COURT PROCESS BOOK, COMMON LAW, 1831—. 4 vols. (1, 3 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Circuit Court Process Book, 1849-70.

Processes for pluries capias, summons, breach of covenant, rape, bail, writ of replevin, debt, larceny, battery, murder, slander, show attorneys, parties' names, kind of process, date, return date, when and to whom delivered, sheriff's receipt, plaintiff, defendant, actions, November, December, January, February, March, date of summons, date of receipt, to whom delivered. 1831-70 no index; 1871— inserted booklet index to parties. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 159 pp. 17 x 11 x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

159. WITNESS ATTENDANCE, 1918—. 1 vol.

Shows parties' names, witnesses, days, total days, number miles over ten, mileage, ferriage, tolls, total receipts. Indexed by witnesses and suits. Hdw. on printed forms. 300 pp. 16 x 11 x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

For prior records, see entry 217.

Court Papers

160. CASES DISMISSED AT RULES, 1910—. 2 file boxes. No title, 1921-29.

Circuit court cases dismissed at rules upon application of one party or upon the failure of plaintiff to appear. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

161. CHANCERY CAUSES (Pending), 1927—. 48 file boxes (A-P, R-Z).

Pending and current chancery causes, decrees, injunctions, suits. Arr. alph. by plaintiff. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

162. CHANCERY UNMATURED, 1930—. 3 file boxes (A-F, G-L, M-Z).

Unmatured chancery suits and injunctions. Arr. alph. by plaintiff. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

163. ENDED CHANCERY CAUSES, 1834—. 193 file boxes (dated). Original decrees, injunctions, suits, and all other papers in cases which have

Circuit Court—Court Papers

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been decided. 1834— arr. chron.; 1834-83 also arr. alph. by plaintiff. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

164. ENDED CHANCERY CAUSES, 1870—. 1 vol.

List of ended chancery causes shows parties' names and ending date of case. Indexed by plaintiff. Hdw. 400 pp. 10 x 12 x 3. Clk. off., center rm.

165. CHANCERY PAPERS. 7 file boxes (Prior to 1866, 3 file boxes; Subsequent to 1866, 4 file boxes). Inaccessible.

Chancery papers referring to suits, injunctions, debt. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

166. CHANCERY—NO DECREE, 1891-1910. 1 file box.

Chancery suits and injunctions for which no decree was given. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

167. COMMON LAW AT RULES (Papers Current), 1937—. 1 file box.

Common law cases such as notices of motions in common law actions which have been set at rules but have not come to trial. Arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

168. [COMMON LAW PAPERS] ENDED, 1833-45, 1855, 1857-61, 1865-87, 1890-96, 1898—. 106 file boxes. Title varies: Common Law Papers, 1833-1903, 1910-36; Common Law Papers Circuit Court, 1904-9.

Criminal actions, rulings of the court, and final disposition of cases. Arr. chron. by term of court. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

169. COMMON LAW, 1906-30. 2 file boxes.

Old common law cases, accident reports. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

170. [DEAD PAPERS] CIRCUIT COURT, 1802-70, 1895-1907. 16 file boxes. Title varies: Superior Court, 1802-60.

Suits, wills, petitions, records of criminal actions and other ended common law cases. Dated but not arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For other circuit and superior court dead papers, see entry 210.

171. VACATION PAPERS, ETC., 1904-15, 1928. 1 file box.

Appointments of officers to substitute for absent officers or to finish incomplete terms. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

172. ADOPTION PAPERS, 1926—. 1 file box.

Papers pertaining to legal adoptions show name of parties, name of child, character and financial standing of person wishing to adopt child. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

173. [MISCELLANEOUS COURT PAPERS], 1873, 1878, 1881, 1888, 1894-95, 1903, 1910, 1914, 1916, 1918, 1920—. 3 file drawers, 1 stack, and 4 bundles.

Contains abstracts of judgments, court papers in cases as civil warrants, judgments and executions, fieri facias on judgments for money, deeds, plats, volunteers in national guard, summary of accounts, summons, executions, appeals and writ of errors from county court, liquor licenses, court orders, chancery cases, dockets, jury verdicts, mandamus petitions, and stenographers' transcripts. Dated but not arr. chron. Drawer 11 x 26 x 14; stack 9 x 15 x 2; bundles 9 x 4 x 4. 1873, 1918, 1926, 1928-29, clk. off., east rm.; 1873-1931, center rm.; 1920—, west rm.

174. CITY OF RICHMOND VS. HATCHER, 1932. 1 file box. Inaccessible.

City of Richmond versus Hatcher, commonwealth case. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

175. STAFFORD, PHILIP VS. SOUTHERN RAILWAY, MAY TERM, 1909; CORONER'S INQUEST IN BEATTIE CASE, NOVEMBER TERM, 1911; W. O. WATKINS VS. ATLANTIC COAST LINE R. R., 1907. 1907, 1909, 1911. 1 file box.

Papers pertaining to the sensational Beattie murder case and others. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

176. [CIRCUIT COURT SUBPOENAS], 1846-50. In [Bonds], entry 56.

Summons to witnesses showing date to appear, purpose, name of witness, name of party, place, and penalty.

177. DREWRY VS. DREWRY DEPOSITION, 1887. 1 bundle.

Depositions taken for the Drewry case. No index. 6 x 9 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

178. STENOGRAPHIC REPORTS OF CIRCUIT COURT CASES, 1879-80, 1882, 1890, 1894-95, 1902-4, 1906, 1909, 1911-13, 1917-18, 1925, 1927-32, 1934-36. 82 vols. (1911 on Beattie case is No. 1-27; also has No. 2½, 4½, 20½. Of this group are missing 8, 23, 24½, 26½).

Stenographers' typed copies of various cases as Beattie case, Atlantic Coast Line versus More's Administrators, and other cases; also contains blueprints and photographic evidence. Typed. Indexed by witnesses in order in which they appear. 50 pp. 11 x 9 x ½. 40 vols., 1879-80, 1882, 1894-95, 1903-4, 1912-13, 1917-18, 1925, 1927-32, 1934-36, clk. off., east rm.; 42 vols., 1890, 1902-4, 1906, 1909, 1911-13, 1929, north rm.

Circuit Court—Judgments and Executions

(179-185)

179. REPORT OF WORK OF CIRCUIT COURT, 1933-35. 1 file box. Inaccessible.

Circuit court reports and dockets. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

Judgments and Executions

(See also entries 103, 104, 213, 214)

180. CIRCUIT COURT CHANCERY EXECUTION DOCKET, 1833-72. 1 vol. (1).

Shows attorneys, name of parties, amount, date of execution, return day, species of execution, county, to whom delivered, sheriff's returns. Inserted booklet index to plaintiff. Hdw. on hdr. forms. Aver. 200 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

181. [JUDGMENT BY CONFESSION], 1936—. 1 bundle.

Judgments rendered for plaintiff on confession of defendant in clerk's office. Arr. chron. 10 x 5 x 1½. Clk. off., center rm.

182. SUPERIOR COURT OFFICE JUDGMENTS, 1809-48. 2 vols. (1, 2).

Decisions wherein defendants fail to appear. Also contains Circuit Court Chancery Rule Docket, entry 147. Inserted booklet index to plaintiff. Vol. 2 has an additional attached index. Hdw. Aver. 438 pp. 16 x 10½ x 2½. Clk. off., north rm.

183. CIRCUIT COURT EXECUTION DOCKET, CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1810-13, 1817-42, 1861-1904. 5 vols. (1-3, 2 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Execution Docket, 1810-13, 1817-42. 1904-16, in County Court Execution Docket, entry 213.

Shows attorneys, species of execution, amount of debt, date, county, return day, to whom delivered, sheriff's return. 1810-13, 1817-25 indexed by plaintiff and defendant, also duplicate index inserted; 1825-31 no index; 1831-42, 1861-1904 two inserted booklet indexes, one to plaintiff and one to defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 210 pp. 16 x 10 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

184. SUPERIOR AND CIRCUIT COURT EXECUTIONS, 1809-69, 1908-26, 1929—. 7 file boxes.

Executions of superior and circuit court showing name of attorney, parties' names, amount of debt, interest and cost, writ, date of writ, return day, date of delivery to sheriff, sheriff's return. Dated but not arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. 6 files, 1809-69, 1908-26, clk. off., north rm.; 1 file, 1929—, east rm.

185. ABSTRACT OF JUDGMENTS, 1926-34. 1 file box. Inaccessible. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

Warrants

186. COMMONWEALTH CRIMINAL WARRANTS: STATE CRIMINAL WARRANTS, 1920—. 22 file boxes (A-Z, 2 not labeled). Title varies: County and Commonwealth Criminal Warrants, 1922-23.

Shows date, name of person, kind of warrant, date executed. Arr. chron. and alph. by defendant. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

For other warrants, see entries 187, 215.

187. COUNTY CRIMINAL WARRANTS, 1924—. 16 file boxes (A-Z). Shows date, name of person, kind of warrant, date executed. Arr. chron. and alph. by defendant. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

For prior records, see entries 186, 215.

188. WARRANTS (Arrests), 1904-8, 1915-18. 3 bundles. Summons, affidavits, accounts, executions, and judgments. Dated but not arr. Hdw. 10 x 3½ x 4. Clk. off., north rm.

For prior records, see entry 216.

189. DISTRESS WARRANTS RETURNED TO CLERK'S OFFICE, 1934—. 1 file box.

Civil warrants usually levying against rent. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

190. INFORMATIONS, WARRANTS, ETC., FOR ATTENTION, 1931-35. 1 file box.

Warrants and true bills. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

191. CIVIL WARRANTS AND EXECUTIONS, 1904-11. 1 file box.

Civil warrants and executions showing date, name of person, kind of warrant, date executed, name of attorney, parties' names, amount of debt, interest and cost, writ, date of writ, return day, date of delivery to sheriff, sheriff's return. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

Condemnation Proceedings

192. COMMON LAW SHOW CAUSE ORDERS, CONDEMNATION, 1932-35. 1 file box.

Orders to appear before the court to present reasons and facts in condemnation proceedings. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

193. STATE HIGHWAY CONDEMNATION PAPERS, 1928—. 2 file boxes. Title varies: Condemnation Proceedings, Commonwealth vs. Certain Landowners, 1928-31.

Papers confiscating property by right of eminent domain for purpose of

Circuit Court—Wills

(194-200)

road building. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. 1 file, 1928-31, clk. off., west rm.; 1 file, 1930—, center rm.

194. STATE HIGHWAY CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS, 1881, 1899-1901, 1928-32. 6 file boxes.

State highway condemnation proceedings—Brighthope Railroad, Richmond-Petersburg Railroad, Richmond-Petersburg Turnpike, Carolina Railroad (now Seaboard Air Line), Richmond-Danville Railroad. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

Wills

195. WILL BOOK, CIRCUIT COURT, 1807-1903. 2 vols. (1, 2).

Title varies: Wills and Accounts, Circuit Court, 1856-1903. Bequests, executors' bonds, appointment of administrators. 1807-56 inserted booklet index to wards and guardians; 1856-1903 indexed by wards and guardians. Hdw. Aver. 450 pp. 16½ x 11 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

For wills recorded by county clerk, see entry 43.

Naturalization

196. NATURALIZATION—PETITION AND RECORD, 1911-12. 1 vol.

Shows declaration of intention, petition for naturalization, affidavit of witnesses, oaths of allegiance, order of court admitting petitioners. Indexed by applicants. Hdw. on printed forms with typed passages. 100 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. Clk. off., west rm.

197. CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION, 1911. 1 vol.

Shows declaration of intention, name, age, volume and page number, date; name, age, place of residence of wife and minor children; date of order. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 24 pp. 8½ x 14½ x ½. Clk. off., west rm.

198. RECORD OF DECLARATION OF INTENTION, 1912. 1 vol.

Naturalization book showing applicants' name, birthplace, residence, occupation, personal description. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 14 x 8 x ½. Clk. off., west rm.

Accounts

199. IN RE: TREASURERSHIP OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1932. 1 file box.

Papers in reference to the change of the treasurer from a fee to a salary officer. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

200. BANK DEPOSITS TO CREDIT OF COURT, 1907—. 2 vols.

Deposits and disbursements of the circuit court and dates of each. In-

dexed by parties. Hdw. on printed forms. 165 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. 1 vol., 1907—, clk. off., east rm.; 1 vol., 1914—, north rm.

IV. COUNTY COURT

It should be stated at the outset that, although the county court was the oldest and one of the most important of the local political institutions, it does not exist at the present time. Except for a revival of the name to apply to the present trial justice court during the years 1930-36,¹ no county office or organization has been called by this name since February 1, 1904.²

The roots of this institution antedate the formation of the counties themselves. Two local courts were established 1623-24. These were called *monthly courts* and their jurisdiction was restricted to the most petty cases.³ When the eight original shires were set up in Virginia a court of the shire was established in each.⁴ The general assembly gradually extended the jurisdiction of these courts; in 1642-43 the term *county courts* was first applied to them. By 1645 they had evolved into the form they were to retain for more than two centuries. By that time they had become courts of general jurisdiction in law and equity.⁵

Although the members of the original courts were appointed by the governor and, under the name justices of the peace (after 1661-62),⁶ continued to be commissioned at irregular intervals by that crown official, they seem to have acquired quickly the power to fill vacancies in their own ranks by certifying prospective justices to the governor for commissions.⁷

In addition to their broad judicial powers, the original county courts exercised the administrative authority of the modern elected board of supervisors, *i. e.*, they levied the county taxes and provided for the upkeep of roads, wharves, and county buildings. They also possessed the prerogatives now lodged in the people of the county for they appointed the sheriffs and all county officials except the county

1. *Acts* 1930, pp. 447-48; *Acts* 1936, pp. 615 ff.

2. *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 830.

3. *Hen.*, I, p. 125.

4. *Ibid.*, I, p. 224.

5. *Ibid.*, I, pp. 224, 272-73, 302-4, 310, 335-36, 345-50, 398, 446-48, 462-69, 521-22.

6. *Ibid.*, II, p. 70.

7. *Ibid.*, I, p. 480; P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, I, pp. 490-92.

clerk and county surveyor. In addition, they registered wills and deeds and supervised fiduciary relationships.⁸

During the Revolution and the first decade of statehood, the broad powers of the county courts were augmented rather than reduced. They retained all their colonial functions and, in addition, obtained the right to appoint the county clerk and county surveyor who previously had been selected by crown officials.⁹

Naturally self-perpetuating bodies, which exercised practically all the powers of local government, could not exist forever in the home of Jeffersonian democracy. The first of their many functions to be curtailed was the judicial. This was accomplished by the evolution of professional circuit courts¹⁰ during the early years of the nineteenth century.

Great changes were made in the county court system by the Constitutional Convention of 1850-51. Among many other reforms, this convention provided for the popular election of the justices of the peace who constituted the county courts and stripped them of their extensive appointive powers. Sheriffs, attorneys for the commonwealth, commissioners of the revenue, clerks, surveyors, and constables were henceforward to be popularly elected.¹¹

Eighteen years later, by the constitution of 1869, the county courts were deprived of their administrative powers. By this constitution the county levy and the financial management of the county were placed in the hands of a newly created board of supervisors.¹² The county courts were continued but no longer consisted of the county justices of the peace but of one "judge learned in the law of the state" elected for a six year term by the state legislature.¹³ Obviously, the county courts as they had existed from early colonial days were abolished by the above provisions and the term "county court" was given an altogether different meaning.

In the constitution of 1902, no provision was made for county courts and the name itself was dropped in 1904 when its functions were taken over by the circuit courts.¹⁴

8. Hen., I, p. 199; II, pp. 21, 78; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 547-49, 596; II, pp. 534-35.

9. *Form of Government* 1776, art. 15; Hen., XI, pp. 352-53.

10. *q. v.*

11. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, secs. 27, 30.

12. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 2; *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 269-73.

13. *Const.* 1869, art. vi, sec. 13.

14. *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 830.

Procedure

201. CHESTERFIELD RULE DOCKET, 1784-86, 1805-8, 1811-12, 1814-41, 1856-74. 15 vols. Title varies: Chesterfield County Court Rule Docket, 1816-31. No title, 1784-86.

Chancery and common law decrees show parties, date, action. Chancery rule docket shows attorneys, parties, date, actions, months, March court, August court, November court. Common law rule docket shows attorneys, parties, date, actions, sheriff's return, bail, months, March court, August court, November court. 1856-74 contains chancery cases only. Arr. chron. and alph. by cases. Hdw. on hdr. forms. Aver. 215 pp. 10 x 15 x 1. 14 vols., 1784-86, 1805-8, 1811-12, 1814-19, 1822-41, 1856-74, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1819-20, So. Rich. storage.

202. [APPEARANCE AT RULES], 1857-93. 1 vol.

County court rules showing attorneys for plaintiff, attorneys for defendant, parties' names, actions, October, November, December, January. Arr. chron. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 44 pp. 18 x 11½ x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

203. CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COURT ISSUE DOCKET, 1802, 1805-28. 9 vols. (1802 vol. erroneously dated 1796, others not labeled).

Chancery issue docket shows attorneys, parties' names, actions, remarks. Common law issue docket shows attorney for plaintiff, parties' names, attorney for defendant, actions, pleas, February term, April term, July term, October term. Arr. chron. and alph. by kind of cases. Hdw. on hdr. forms. Paper poor. Binding of vol. 1802 is lost. Aver. 200 pp. 12 x 9½ x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

204. COUNTY COURT ORDER BOOK, 1749-1857, 1863-1904. 46 vols. (1-33, 37, 39-49), and 2 photostat copies of vol. 1, pt. 1 and 2 photostat copies of vol. 1, pt. 2. Title varies: Orders, 1840-45; Common Law Order Book, 1845-47, 1900-4. 1857-63 information in County Court Minutes, vol. 38, entry 205.

Orders of the court on appointments of road surveyors, overseers of poor, notaries public, appraisers; recording of deeds of sale, deeds of gifts, deeds of trust, wills; sentences for profanity, rioting, stealing; suits for debt; organization of court, election of presiding justice and appointment of magistrates. List of conveyances admitted to record shows grantors to grantees, date of deed, kind of deed, kind of estate, when recorded. Vols. 1, 5, 10, 12, 14, 49 indexed by case name and subject; vols. 2-4, 6-9, 11, 13, 15-29, 32, 33, 37, 39, 41-48 have inserted booklet index by case name and subject; vols. 30, 31, 40 not indexed. 1749-54 photostat; 1749-1904 hdw. 580 pp. 17 x 14 x 2. 2 duplicate vols., 1749-54, V. S. L., reading-rm.; 46 vols., 1749-1904, clk. off., north rm.; 1 duplicate vol., 1821-37, So. Rich. storage.

205. COUNTY COURT MINUTES, 1811-29, 1845-52, 1857-63. 8 vols. (35, 38, 6 vols. not numbered). Title varies: County Court Minute Book, 1845-52; Order Book, 1820-25; Chesterfield Minutes, 1819-21; Minute Book, 1811, 1825-29.

Complete minutes of proceedings of the court including brief memoranda of cases and orders for recording deeds of sale, wills, attachments, inventories, and appraisements. Vol. 38, 1857-63, also serves as County Court Order Book, entry 204. 1811-29, 1845-52 not indexed; 1857-63 inserted booklet index by name of case and type of procedure. Hdw. Aver. 261 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. 7 vols., 1811-29, 1845-52, 1857-63, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1820-25, So. Rich. storage.

206. COUNTY COURT CHANCERY ORDERS, 1865-66, 1870-73. 2 vols. Title varies: Court Orders Law and Chancery, 1865-66.

Orders concerning cases in chancery, wills, suits, administration of estates, judgments. 1865-66 not indexed; 1870-73 inserted booklet index to plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. Aver. 183 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

207. MEMORANDUM BOOK OF CLERK OF COUNTY COURT, 1750. 1 vol.

Clerk's memoranda of court orders which were later copied in county court order book. Arr. chron. Hdw. Binding is lost. Paper poor. 75 pp. 7½ x 6 x ½. Clk. off., center rm.

208. [PROCESS BOOK] COUNTY COURT, 1847-1925. 2 vols. Title varies: County Court Process Book, 1847-58.

Subpoenas, injunctions, attachments show attorneys' names, actions, kind of process, date, return date, when delivered. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. Aver. 263 pp. 15 x 10¼ x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

209. COUNTY COURT COMMON LAW PROCESS BOOK, 1847-97. 1 vol.

Book of forms for subpoenas shows summons in partition, in dower, information; judgments in assault and battery, in covenant; appeals; marriage licenses; guardians' bonds; also cases in point and county clerk's fees. No index. Hdw. Paper poor. 146 pp. 12 x 7½ x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

Court Papers

210. MISCELLANEOUS DEAD PAPERS, 1750-1927. 269 file boxes. Title varies: Dead Papers, Superior Court, Circuit, County Court, 1813-1907; County Court Dead Papers, 1750-1838, 1851-59; Chesterfield County Papers—Not Marriage Bonds, 1779-1834. No title, 1818-1908.

Deeds, summary of accounts, summons, executions, motions for judgments,

County Court—Executions

(211-215)

liquor licenses, court orders, chancery cases, ended common law cases, dockets, jury verdicts, mandamus petitions. Dated but not arr. chron. Aver. 11 x 5 x 14. 268 files, 1750-1927, clk. off., north rm.; 1 file, 1799-1834, V. S. L., archives, stack-rm.

For related papers, see entries 170, 211, 212.

211. FRAGMENTARY PAPERS OF CHANCERY SUITS IN COUNTY COURT, 1783, 1788, 1797-1860, 1868, 1873. 2 file boxes containing 36 bundles (Prior to 1875).

Chancery suits, decrees, injunctions. Dated but not arr. chron. File 11 x 26 x 14; bundles 9 x 3½ x 5. Clk. off., center rm.

For related records, see entry 210.

212. DEAD PAPERS, COMMON LAW, 1764-1857. 3 file boxes.

Wills, actions, record of criminal actions, and other ended common law cases. Indiscriminately filed. Dated but not arr. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For related papers, see entry 210.

Executions

213. COUNTY COURT EXECUTION DOCKET, 1802-25, 1867-1916. 5 vols. (13, 14, others not numbered).

County court execution docket 1802-25, 1867-1904 shows attorney's notice of process, name of parties and amount, date of execution, return day, to whom delivered, return of officers. Also contains Circuit Court Execution Docket, 1904-16, entry 183. 1802-25, 1895-1916, inserted booklet index to plaintiff and defendant; 1867-95 indexed by name of plaintiff and defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 18 x 12 x 1¾. 3 vols., 1802-25, So. Rich. storage; 2 vols., 1867-1916, clk. off., north rm.

For other execution dockets, see entry 103.

214. OLD EXECUTIONS SINCE THE REVOLUTION, undated. 1 file box (A-G). Inaccessible.

Executions of various courts of county. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For superior and circuit court executions, see entry 184.

Warrants

215. WARRANTS, SUPERIOR COURT, CIRCUIT COURT, COUNTY COURT, COMMONWEALTH, 1808-1909. 2 file boxes.

Shows date, name of person, kind of warrant, date of service. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For subsequent warrants, see entries 186, 187.

216. WARRANTS (Arrests), 1748-89, 1804-7, 1810-62, 1868-1904.
21 bundles in a trunk.

Warrants of arrest; also summons, affidavits, accounts, executions, judgments. Bundles dated, but not arr. Trunk 32 x 34 x 22; bundles 10 x 3½ x 4. Clk. off., north rm.

For subsequent records, see entry 188.

Witnesses

217. [WITNESS ATTENDANCE], 1811-25, 1896-1917. 2 vols.

Shows parties' names, witnesses, days, total days, number miles over ten, mileage, ferriage, tolls, total, receipts. Indexed by witnesses and suits. Hdw. on printed forms. 300 pp. 16 x 11 x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

For subsequent records, see entry 159.

218. ORDERS OF ATTENDANCE, 1809-44. 1 vol.

Payment of court order of witnesses attending court for state. Indexed by plaintiff and defendant; also duplicate index inserted. Hdw. 489 pp. 15 x 10 x 2½. Clk. off., north rm.

Processioners

219. PROCESSIONERS' REPORTS, 1804, 1808, 1812, 1816, 1820. 1 file box.

Reports on reviewing of boundary lines every four years. Arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

V. COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY

Commonwealth attorneys were appointed by the attorney general in 1788 for district courts, forerunners of the circuit courts; they were appointed for county courts in 1800 in accordance with an act providing that "attornies [*sic*] to prosecute on behalf of the commonwealth shall hereafter be appointed in the district and all other inferior courts of this commonwealth, by an order of such courts respectively."¹ Since his office was created, the general duty of the commonwealth's attorney has continued to be that of defending the commonwealth and of prosecuting in its behalf. Subsequent legislation has merely enumerated additional and specific cases allotted to his jurisdiction.

Two commonwealth attorneys, one each for the circuit and county

1. Hen., XII, p. 758; Shepherd, II, p. 215.

courts, were appointed by the respective courts for four year terms until the 1851 constitution provided for the popular election of only one commonwealth's attorney to act in all the courts of the county.²

Although the commonwealth attorney's term of office was reduced to three years during the township government, 1870-75, it was increased again to four years at the end of this temporary régime.³ Since the creation of the board of supervisors in 1870, the commonwealth's attorney has represented the county before this board, giving legal opinion when required.⁴ From 1877 to 1884 and from 1887 to 1928 he was a member of the school trustee electoral board.⁵

The commonwealth's attorney is now paid a regular salary instead of fees.⁶ He keeps no permanent records in his own office since all of his papers are records of the court and are in the custody of the county clerk.

VI. TRIAL JUSTICE COURT

The trial justice court in Chesterfield County was established in 1926 upon the county electorate's approval of an act of 1924,⁷ which provided for a trial justice in every county adjoining a city lying wholly within the state and containing a population of 170,000 or more. The 1934 trial justice act⁸ establishing a trial justice court in every county barely affected the Chesterfield trial justice court; whereas, the 1936 act,⁹ repealing the special trial justice acts and providing uniformity for trial justice courts in all the counties, granted additional powers and duties to this trial justice and his clerk.

The trial justice is appointed for a term of four years by the circuit court.¹⁰ Under the 1924 act, he was given exclusive original jurisdiction for the trial of all offenses against the by-laws of the county and the same civil and criminal jurisdiction in the county as the civil

2. *R. C.* 1819, I, pp. 241, 272; *Code* 1849, p. 637; *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 30.

3. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 1; *Acts* 1874-75, p. 133; *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 110, 112.

4. *Acts* 1869-70, p. 271.

5. *Acts* 1876-77, p. 9; *Acts* 1883-84, pp. 177-78; *Acts* 1887, pp. 305-6; *Acts* 1928, pp. 1202-3.

6. *Acts* 1934, p. 733.

7. *Acts* 1924, pp. 401-5; *Acts* 1926, p. 20.

8. *Acts* 1934, pp. 466-74.

9. *Acts* 1936, pp. 615-29.

10. The first trial justice for Chesterfield County was appointed for a two year term, since Chesterfield did not adopt the trial justice act of 1924 until 1926, *Acts* 1926, p. 21. The board of supervisors submitted nominations to the circuit court until 1936, *Acts* 1924, p. 401; *Acts* 1936, pp. 615-16.

and police justices have in cities. In preliminary examinations, bail procedure, and appeals in both civil and criminal cases, he was granted the same power as the justices of the peace in counties not having a trial justice, except that he could not remove to any other court a civil case triable before him. By an amendment in 1926 the trial justice became *ex-officio* the judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court of the county.¹¹ The 1934 act granted him jurisdiction over all misdemeanors arising in the county. The 1936 act continued the jurisdiction previously conferred upon the trial justice and, in addition, gave him: (1) exclusive original jurisdiction of all misdemeanors against the commonwealth, except offenses vested in the state corporation commission, and of all civil suits not exceeding two hundred dollars; (2) concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court over claims between two hundred and one thousand dollars; (3) the power to issue and jurisdiction to try attachments not exceeding one thousand dollars; (4) the power to issue warrants, summons, and subpoenas in civil and criminal cases, to take affidavits and to administer oaths and affirmations in all matters and proceedings, and to issue all appropriate orders or writs, including the authority to appoint guardians *ad litem*; (5) and concurrent jurisdiction with justices of the peace in lunacy proceedings.

The clerk of the trial justice court is appointed by the trial justice to serve at the justice's pleasure. The clerk keeps the docket and accounts of the trial justice and performs any other duties the trial justice may prescribe. He issues all warrants, subpoenas, and other process in connection with the violation of ordinances or by-laws of the county and all civil warrants and other civil process returnable before the trial justice, except that any justice of the peace may issue such civil process if the plaintiff neither resides nor has a place of business within ten miles of the county seat. He may issue abstracts of judgments, may grant bail in misdemeanor cases, and has the authority to take affidavits and to administer oaths and affirmations.¹²

The state appropriates six hundred dollars annually to each county for the trial justice court. Both the trial justice and his clerk are paid fixed salaries. Their fees, charged and collected in the same manner as those of the justices of the peace, are paid into the county and state treasury.

The circuit court has general supervisory power over the trial jus-

11. *Acts* 1926, p. 21.

12. Under the 1924 act the clerk was a justice of the peace, *Acts* 1924, p. 402.

tice court. It may designate various places within the county for sessions of the court and appoint a substitute trial justice to act in the absence of the regular trial justice.

All papers are kept in the office of the trial justice clerk for one year, except those relating to cases appealed or removed, or those required by general law to be returned earlier to the office of the county clerk.¹³ They are then delivered to the county clerk's office where they are filed, indexed, and preserved as are the records of the justices of the peace.¹⁴

Procedure

220. JUDGMENT DOCKET BOOK, 1926—. 3 vols. (1-3).

Shows number of case, date, plaintiff and defendant, judgment, by whom warrant issued, to whom execution delivered, return date for execution, remarks. Volume 1 consists of judgments for money. Volume 3 succeeds volume 1. Volume 2 consists of all other civil warrants. 1926-29 indexed by plaintiff and defendant; 1928— separate index, entry 221. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 430 pp. 18 x 12 x 4. C. C., T. J. off.

221. JUDGMENT DOCKET INDEX—PLAINTIFF AND DEFENDANT, 1928—. 2 vols.

One volume for plaintiff, one volume for defendant, showing plaintiff; defendant; kind of action; where recorded, book, page. Hdw. on printed forms. 350 pp. 12 x 10 x 2¼. C. C., T. J. off.

222. MEMORANDUM DAILY DOCKETS, 1926—. 3 file boxes (1-18, 19-27, 28 to —).

Daily dockets kept by the clerk until ready to be recorded in the docket book. Arr. by docket numbers. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

223. CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED BY TRIAL JUSTICE COURT IN CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA (State Cases), 1926—. 1 vol.

This deals with state violations only. Shows name of person, age, color, height, offense, date of conviction, term of imprisonment, statement of the costs of prosecution, has fine and costs been paid the justice, date of fieri facias. Indexed by defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 500 pp. 18 x 14½ x 3. C. C., T. J. off.

For related records, see entry 248.

13. For three years under the 1924 act, *Acts* 1924, p. 404.

14. In cases in which the accused is permitted by the trial justice to pay a fine in installments, the trial justice court may retain the papers for three years, if necessary.

Trial Justice Court—Warrants

(224-231)

224. CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED BY TRIAL JUSTICE COURT OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA (County Cases), 1926—. 1 vol.

This deals with county violations showing name of person, age, color, height, offense, date of conviction, term of imprisonment, statement of the costs of prosecution, has fine and costs been paid the justice, date of fieri facias. Indexed by defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 300 pp. 18 x 14½ x 2. C. C., T. J. off.

For related records, see entry 248.

225. COMMONWEALTH AND COUNTY CASES, 1937—. 1 file box. Report A, or cash sheet, on cases settled and entered on docket. No index. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

226. [CORRESPONDENCE], 1927—. 23 file boxes. Original letters and clerk's copies in reference to court matters. Indexed by parties. 12 x 12 x 3. C. C., T. J. off.

Warrants

227. CRIMINAL WARRANTS APPEALED OR CERTIFIED TO GRAND JURY, 1937—. 1 file box.

Criminal warrants show date, name, kind of warrant. Arr. chron. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

228. CIVIL WARRANTS RETURNED BY TRIAL JUSTICE COURT, 1926—. 39 file boxes (A-Z). Title varies: Civil Warrants Returned by Trial Justice Court and Justice of Peace, 1926.

Shows date, name of person, kind of warrant, date executed. Arr. chron. and alph. by parties. 11 x 5 x 14. 34 files, 1926-35, clk. off., east rm.; 5 files, 1936—, C. C., T. J. off.

For other civil warrants, see entries 229, 250.

229. CIVIL WARRANTS, 1926-30. 1 file box (Prior to 1930).

Warrants on which officers' returns have been entered, but which have not been filed with clerk of circuit court. No index. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

For other civil warrants, see entries 228, 250.

230. ARREST WARRANTS AGAINST PERSONS NOT IN CUSTODY, 1929—. 1 file box.

Shows date, name of person, kind of warrant, date executed. Indexed by parties. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

231. [SEARCH WARRANTS AND GARNISHEE SUMMONS], 1932—. 1 file box.

Garnishee summons for debt show to whom, date, amount. Search warrants

Trial Justice Court—Fees and Fines

(232-238)

show officer, name and address of party, description of object of warrant, date of search. No index. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

Fees and Fines

232. NUMERAL BOOKS, COMMONWEALTHS ATTORNEY RECORDS; RECORD OF SUNDRY CIVIL FEES, 1926—. 1 file box.

Consists entirely of numeral books containing fees of various officers participating in proceedings of the court; showing date, name, amount. No index. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

233. MONTHLY REPORT OF FEES AND FINES MADE TO CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT, 1926—. 1 file box.

Monthly reports of fines which are later incorporated into a volume. Arr. chron. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

234. FINE REPORTS OF THE TRIAL JUSTICE COURTS, 1926—. 6 file boxes.

Reports of fines collected by trial justice court show defendant, paid by, amount, date. Dated but not arr. chron. 11 x 5 x 14. 5 files, 1926-35, clk. off., east rm.; 1 file, 1936—, C. C., T. J. off.

For related records, see entry 256.

235. [CONVICTION REPORTS—MOTOR VEHICLES], 1935—. 1 file box.

Motor vehicles conviction reports show name, offense, date, penalty, amount of fine. Indexed by parties. 11 x 14 x 27. C. C., T. J. off.

Receipts

236. [RECEIPT BOOK—COUNTY CASES], 1936—. 6 vols.

Shows from whom received, for account of, for services rendered, amount. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 16½ x 10½ x ½. C. C., T. J. off.

237. [RECEIPT BOOK—STATE CASES], 1935—. 3 vols.

Forms are in triplicates in different colors. Two remain with clerk. Show received from the trial justice court of the county of Chesterfield, Virginia, amount, date, items. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 82 pp. 10 x 10 x 1. C. C., T. J. off.

238. VIRGINIA OFFICIAL RECEIPT FOR FINES AND COSTS, 1926—. 22 vols. No title 1926-36.

Official receipts of fines and costs showing defendant, paid by, amount of fine and cost, total, date. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 2 vols., 1937—, 150 pp. 10½ x 10½ x ½; 20 vols., 1926-36, 50 pp. 3 x 11 x ½. C. C., T. J. off.

Accounts

239. CASH ACCOUNT OF TRIAL JUSTICE COURT OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1934—. 1 vol.

Shows date, cash, accounts receivable, parties' names, case number, state fines, county fines, trial justice fees in criminal cases, circuit court clerk's fees in criminal cases, officer's fees, commonwealth attorney, old account, fees for criminal cases, witness fees, justices of peace fees, payment in domestic relations cases, deposited cash bonds, fees of trial justice court in civil cases, fees for civil cases to officers, fees of clerk of circuit court in civil cases. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 233 pp. 22½ x 14½ x 2. C. C., T. J. off.

240. [CHECK STUBS], 1926-31. 4 vols.

Shows number, date, payable to, name, amount, balance, total balance. Arr. numerically. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 9 x 4½ x 1. C. C., T. J. off.

241. [CANCELLED CHECKS], 1926—. 3 file boxes.

Shows number, name of bank, date, to whom payable, amount, signature. Arr. chron. 9 x 13½ x 1½. C. C., T. J. off.

VII. JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT

The Chesterfield juvenile and domestic relations court was established by an act of 1922,¹ which required the circuit court of every county to appoint a special justice of the peace, preferably a person trained in law, to be known as the judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court. His term of office was six years. This court was granted original jurisdiction in all cases dealing with delinquent, dependent, and neglected children, and in cases involving marital troubles.

With the establishment of the trial justice court in Chesterfield in 1926, the separate juvenile and domestic relations court was discontinued. Since that time, the trial justice has served as *ex-officio* the judge of the juvenile and domestic relations court.²

The records of juvenile and domestic relations cases are in the custody of the judge and are not accessible to the general public.³

242. JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DOCKET, 1926—. 2 vols. No title, 1926-36.

Shows case number, name of complainant, age, color; name of defendant, defendant's children, age, color, married or single, occupation, place of

1. *Acts* 1922, pp. 835-39.

2. *Acts* 1926, p. 21.

3. *Acts* 1922, p. 838; *Code* 1936, sec. 1953g.

birth; offense; date of complaint; trial date; names of witnesses; names of officers making arrest and serving papers in case; record of payments made under order of court. 1926-36 arr. chron.; 1936— indexed by defendant. Hdw. on printed form. Aver. 200 pp. 15 x 11¾ x 1½. C. C., T. J. off.

243. ORDER BOOK OF JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT (inside title), 1926-29. 2 vols. Discontinued.

Court orders concerning non-support and other juvenile and domestic relation cases. No index. Hdw. Aver. 175 pp. 13 x 11 x 2. C. C., T. J. off.

244. [JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS ACTIVE CASES], 1926—. 1 file box.

Contains petitions, warrants, commitments, subpoenas, correspondence, record of payments under court orders and all other papers in active cases. Arr. by docket number. 16 x 12 x 20. C. C., T. J. off.

245. JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES (Ended), 1926—. 1 file box.

Contains petitions, warrants, commitments, subpoenas, correspondence, record of payments under court orders and all other papers in ended cases. Arr. by docket number. 10 x 6 x 19. C. C., T. J. off.

VIII. JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

The office of the justice of the peace originated with the county court in 1623 and until 1869 the justices acted in a dual capacity. Collectively they were the judges of the county court and individually they were the justices of the peace.¹ The magistrates, at first known as commissioners of the monthly courts and as commissioners of the county courts, were not called justices of the peace until 1662.² This office was already well established when Chesterfield became a county in 1749.

In 1643 the individual magistrate living nearest the creditor was empowered to decide causes for a debt under twenty shillings or two hundred pounds of tobacco,³ and in 1748 all causes involving less than twenty-five shillings.⁴ His criminal jurisdiction embraced the power of arresting and binding over any notorious and inveterate lawbreaker and of protecting the liberty of the person. He heard indentured servants' complaints against their masters, and he issued warrants of hue

1. See County Court.

2. Hen., II, p. 70.

3. *Ibid.*, I, p. 273; II, p. 244.

4. *Ibid.*, V, p. 491. For a few years a single justice could hear causes to the value of 350 pounds of tobacco, *ibid.*, I, p. 435.

and cry.⁵ A justice of the peace usually acted as coroner. Two justices acting together issued proclamations against "outlying" slaves and warrants for their arrest, suppressed ordinaries during intervals between court sessions if keepers allowed unlawful gaming and drinking on the Sabbath, signed probate of wills and letters of administration, and determined suits involving less than 1,000 pounds of tobacco.⁶

In 1792 a justice was given jurisdiction in causes up to five dollars (extended to ten dollars in 1801)⁷ and was permitted to institute lunacy proceedings and, together with two other justices, to conduct lunacy examinations.⁸

The 1851 constitution provided for the popular election of four justices of the peace for each district in the county for a term of four years.⁹ The constitution of 1869 completely separated the justices of the peace from the county court by providing for the popular election of three justices of the peace for each township for three year terms, and for the election by the general assembly of a separate county court judge.¹⁰ With this separation, the justices of the peace were given concurrent jurisdiction with the county court over all petit larcenies and all cases, except felonious cases, of assault and battery.¹¹

After the abolition of the townships, three justices of the peace were popularly elected in each magisterial district for a term of two years.¹² The 1902 constitution authorized the general assembly to provide "for the appointment or election and for the jurisdiction of such justices of the peace as the public interest may require."¹³ The acts of 1902-3-4 provided for the election of three justices in each magisterial district for a term of four years.¹⁴

With the establishment of the trial justice court in Chesterfield in 1926, the justice of the peace was left with little more than a title. He still conducts lunacy proceedings, acts as conservator of the peace and

5. P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, I, pp. 480-81; Hen., I, pp. 255, 440; III, pp. 448-49; VI, p. 358.

6. O. P. Chitwood, "Justice in Colonial Virginia," *Johns Hopkins University Studies*, ser. XXIII, nos. 7-8, p. 82; Hen., I, p. 435; II, pp. 359, 391; III, p. 86.

7. Hen., XIII, p. 451; Shepherd, II, p. 275.

8. Shepherd, I, p. 163.

9. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 27.

10. *Const.* 1869, art. vi, sec. 13; art. vii, sec. 2.

11. *Acts* 1870-71, p. 362.

12. *Acts* 1874-75, p. 134.

13. *Const.* 1902, art. vi, sec. 108.

14. *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 506, 743; *Acts* 1930, p. 124.

notary public and, by a special provision of the trial justice act, Chesterfield justices may issue civil processes if the plaintiff neither resides nor has a place of business within ten miles of the county seat.¹⁵

Although the magistrate's court is not called a court of record, each justice is required by law to keep a fee book and a record of judgments on any warrant for the recovery of money and of judgments on any forthcoming bond.¹⁶ These records are turned over to the county clerk for filing and preservation.

Procedure

246. RECORD OF JUDGMENTS FROM JUSTICE COURT, 1877-98. 3 vols. No title, 1878-98.

Shows date of judgment, name of accused, character of offense, convicted, acquitted, amount of fine, number of stripes, term of imprisonment, amount of costs, to whom due, kind of execution, date of execution, name of officer to whom delivered, return. Arr. alph. by defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 18 x 11½ x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

247. JUSTICES' JUDGMENT AND EXECUTION BOOK, 1878-1907, 1916-26. 6 vols.

Shows parties, date of judgment, judgment exclusive of costs, interest from costs, date of execution, execution when delivered, execution to whom delivered, execution when returnable. 1916-26 indexed by parties; 1878-1907 not indexed. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 43 pp. 14 x 8½ x ½. 3 vols., 1878-1907, clk. off., north rm.; 3 vols., 1916-26, east rm.

248. REPORTS OF CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED BY JUSTICES OF PEACE OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA, FOR VIOLATION OF COUNTY ORDINANCES AND FOR VIOLATION OF STATE LAWS (inside title), 1893-1905, 1917-31. 4 vols. Title varies: Record of Criminal Cases, Chesterfield County, Virginia, 1917-25.

Shows name, offense, date of conviction, term of imprisonment, fine, statement of costs of prosecution, amount paid to clerk, date of execution, return date. Arr. alph. by defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 400 pp. 17 x 14½ x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

For related records, see entries, 223, 224.

15. *Acts* 1924, p. 402; *Acts* 1936, p. 624.

16. *Acts* 1820-21, p. 33; *Acts* 1857-58, p. 56; *Code* 1919, sec. 3494; *Code* 1936, sec. 6024.

Justice of the Peace—Warrants

(249-253)

249. [JUSTICE LUNACY COMMISSION HEARINGS], 1932—. 1 drawer.

Commitment papers and report of commission of insanity. No index. 8 x 20 x 16. Clk. off., west rm.

Warrants

250. JUSTICE CIVIL WARRANTS, ETC., 1886-92, 1895-1925. 7 file boxes. Title varies: Justices' Civil Warrants and Executions, 1886-92, 1895-1920. 1916 in Papers Found after Filing Completed: Justice Warrants, 1916; Commissioner's Report of Omitted Capitation Taxes, 1910-13; Board of Supervisors, 1930, entry 253.

Shows date, name of person, kind of warrant, date executed. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. 4 files, 1886-92, 1895-1910, 1912-20, clk. off., north rm.; 3 files, 1904-11, 1920-25, east rm.

For other civil warrants, see entries 228, 229, 252.

251. JUSTICES' CRIMINAL WARRANTS AND EXECUTIONS, 1905-7, 1910-19. 4 file boxes and 1 bundle. 1916 in Papers Found after Filing Completed: Justice Warrants, 1916; Commissioner's Report of Omitted Capitation Taxes, 1910-13; Board of Supervisors, 1930, entry 253.

Shows date, name of person, kind of warrants, date executed. Arr. chron. File 11 x 5 x 14; bundle 9 x 4 x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

252. CIVIL WARRANTS RETURNED TO CLERK'S OFFICE BY J. N. BOWEN, J. P., 1934. 6 file boxes.

Shows date, name of person, kind of warrant, date executed. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

For other civil warrants, see entry 250.

253. PAPERS FOUND AFTER FILING COMPLETED: JUSTICE WARRANTS, 1916; COMMISSIONERS' REPORT OF OMITTED CAPITATION TAXES, 1910-13; BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, 1930. 1910-13, 1916, 1930. 1 file box.

Contains: Justice Civil Warrants, etc., 1916, entry 250; Justices' Criminal Warrants and Executions, 1916, entry 251; Omitted Capitation Taxes, 1910-13, entry 317; Dead Papers—Board of Supervisors, 1930, entry 4. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

Fines

254. RECORD OF STATE FINES, ETC., REPORTED BY JUSTICES, 1931—. 1 vol.

Report shows persons, offense, date of conviction, term of imprisonment, amount of fine, costs of prosecution, amount and date when paid to clerk, date of execution. Arr. alph. by defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 300 pp. 17 x 15 x 2. Clk. off., east rm.

255. RECORD OF COUNTY FINES, ETC. (Reported by Justices), 1930—. 1 vol. (2).

A report of cases disposed of by justices of the peace showing name of person, offense charged, date of conviction or trial, term of imprisonment, amount of fine, statement of the costs of the prosecution (justice before whom tried, amount of justices' fees, name of constable, amount of constables' fees, witnesses, amount due witnesses, clerk's fees, total amount of costs), has the fine and costs or any part thereof been paid to the clerk, date of payment to clerk, amount of fine paid clerk; fees of trial justice paid county treasurer; date of execution, officer to whom delivered, return and date. Arr. alph. by defendant. Hdw. on printed forms. 350 pp. 17 x 15 x 2. Clk. off., east rm.

256. FINE REPORTS OF JUSTICES OF PEACE, 1922-26. 2 file boxes. Reports of fines collected show name of prosecutor, amount of fine, term of imprisonment, kind of execution, costs, how disposed of, remarks. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

For related records, see entry 234.

IX. SHERIFF

Prior to the appointment of the sheriff as a county officer in Virginia in 1634, his duties seem to have been performed by the provost marshal.¹ The term of office was one year until 1705 when it was extended to two years.²

At first the sheriff was appointed by the governor with the consent of the privy council, but in 1656 the governor and his council were required to select a sheriff from a list of three or more persons nominated by the justices of the peace.³ From 1660 until 1776 the office of sheriff was conferred upon the justices in rotation.⁴ Again in 1776

1. Hen., I, pp. 223-24; P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, I, pp. 592-94.

2. Hen., I, pp. 259, 442; III, pp. 246-47.

3. *Ibid.*, I, p. 392.

4. *Ibid.*, II, p. 21.

the sheriff was appointed by the governor and council upon the nomination of the county court.⁵

His duties were threefold: (1) As a law enforcing officer he made arrests, served subpoenas and attachments, executed writs and other process, secured prisoners in jail, attended all meetings of the county court, and carried out court orders; (2) as an election official he conducted the poll and certified the election of delegates and state senators; (3) as a financial officer he collected the county and state levies, taxes on tithables, fines, fees, forfeitures, amercements, officers' fees, militia fines, and poor rates when the overseers of the poor requested and distributed the taxes according to the provisions of the annual levy.⁶

In 1831 the sheriff was authorized to purchase delinquent lands for the commonwealth when the bid was too low to satisfy the claim for taxes and interest, and was required to return to the county court a list of delinquent lands. This list was filed in the county clerk's office. Furthermore he was required to make out three tax lists: (1) of property improperly charged in the commissioners' land books; (2) of other delinquent real estate; (3) of all lands and lots by him sold for non-payment of taxes. These lists were also filed in the clerk's office.⁷

After 1851 the sheriff was elected by the qualified voters of the county.⁸ His term of office was extended to three years in 1869 and to four years in 1874,⁹ but about the same time he lost two of his primary functions. His tax collecting duties were delegated to the newly created office of treasurer; his election powers, except the posting of notices, were conferred upon special election officials.¹⁰

Although the sheriff's powers have been greatly curtailed, he is still the major law enforcing agent in the county. As conservator of the peace he enforces criminal laws, serves processes and warrants, executes decrees of the circuit court, and keeps a fee book.¹¹ He also

5. *Form of Government* 1776, art. xv.

6. *Hen.*, VII, p. 97; XII, pp. 122-25; *Shepherd*, I, pp. 46-48; *Bruce, op. cit.*, I, p. 598.

7. *Acts* 1831-32, pp. 61-64.

8. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 30; *Acts* 1857-58, p. 28.

9. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 1; *Acts* 1874-75, p. 133. The sheriff is still elected for a four year term, *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 110, 112.

10. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 1; *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 78, 82-83, 85-87; *Acts* 1874-75, pp. 341, 343.

11. *Code* 1887, sec. 3115; *Code* 1919, secs. 3494, 5963, 6020, 6021; *Acts* 1926, p. 351.

executes condemnation proceedings, attends meetings of the board of supervisors upon request, conducts sales of property upon the order of the court, and serves as jailor.¹² In Chesterfield the deputy sheriff is the jailor.¹³

Taxes

257. LIST OF TITHABLES IN CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1776-78. 1 vol.

Tithes, lands and chair wheels taken for the year 1777, Manchester Parish, King William Parish, Dale Parish (1776); also Manchester Parish, 1778. No index. Photostat. 20 pp. 14 x 11½ x ½. Clk. off., north rm.

258. DELINQUENTS, 1840-49, 1852-66, 1868-70. 9 vols. Title varies: Delinquent Lands, 1840-49, 1865; Delinquent Taxes, 1852-54. No title, 1855-64, 1866. 1865-70 in Delinquent Lands, entry 326.

Shows name of delinquents, number of acres, location, years, kind of tax, taxes and interest. Chesterfield records bound with other counties. Arr. by counties; 1844-49 arr. alph. by delinquents and also contains typed index by counties. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 750 pp. 18 x 22 x 2. V. S. L., stack-rm.

Land Sales

259. DELINQUENT LAND SALES, 1832-45. 1 vol. (Charles City through York County). 1865-70 in Delinquent Land Sales (Accomac through Cumberland County), entry 340.

Shows year of tax, name of person charged with tax, quantity of land, local description, date purchased, amount of tax, when redeemed, for what year sold. Arr. alph. by delinquent. Indexed by counties. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 241 pp. 13½ x 8 x ¾. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

260. LANDS PURCHASED BY THE COMMONWEALTH FOR TAXES 1855, 1860. 1 vol. (Albemarle through York County).

Lands purchased by commonwealth for taxes in 1855, unredeemed and again transmitted for sale in 1860. Shows name of person charged with taxes, quantity, value of land per acre under last assessment, description, total amount of taxes including interest and cost for which commonwealth purchased land in 1855, and interest for five years at ten per cent through 1860, total of all taxes and interest in 1855 and subsequently accruing, amount of taxes for which commonwealth purchased lands in 1860, re-

12. *Code* 1887, sec. 3403; *Acts* 1893-94, p. 941; *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 855, 968; *Code* 1936, sec. 6278.

13. See Jailor.

Sheriff—Voters' Records

(261-267)

marks. Arr. alph. by counties. Hdw. on printed forms. 236 pp. $17\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

261. LANDS SOLD AND BOUGHT FOR COMMONWEALTH, 1832-55.
3 vols. (Albemarle through Wood County; Albemarle through York).

Shows names of persons, number of acres, location, date of sale, amount of tax, when redeemed, for what years sold. Arr. alph. by delinquent. Typed index of counties. Hdw. on hdr. forms. Aver. 308 pp. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times \frac{3}{4}$. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

262. [SALES OF ESCHEATED LANDS], ca. 1821-68. 1 vol.

Shows number, when copies received from land office, locality of land escheated, quantity, person last seized, claims if any when certified, how disposed of, sales when ordered, upon what terms, price sold for, purchasers, remarks. Chesterfield records bound with other counties. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 75 pp. $15\frac{3}{4} \times 10 \times \frac{3}{4}$. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

Voters' Records

263. SHERIFF'S REPORT OF POSTING COPIES OF LIST OF PERSONS WHO HAVE PAID CAPITATION TAXES, 1931-34. 1 vol.

Sheriff's oath taken before clerk stating that he had posted lists of persons having payed taxes. No index. Hdw. 100 pp. $15 \times 6 \times \frac{1}{2}$. Clk. off., west rm.

264. [SHERIFF'S RECORD OF VOTERS POSTED], 1903-28. 1 vol.

Sheriff's oath before clerk for having posted lists of those having registered and paid poll taxes at various precincts. No index. Hdw. 300 pp. $12 \times 7 \times 1\frac{1}{4}$. Clk. off., north rm.

265. ROAD PAPERS, ROAD DISTRICT NO. 2, [CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF VOTERS], 1864. 1 bundle in a trunk. Title is misnomer.

Bundle actually contains certificates of registration of voters. No index. Trunk $32 \times 34 \times 22$; bundle $10 \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times 4$. Clk. off., north rm.

Miscellaneous

266. SHERIFF O. B. GATES, 1927—. 1 file box.

Warrants and other papers of sheriff. No index. $11 \times 5 \times 14$. Clk. off., west rm.

267. SHERIFF W. C. GILL'S PAPERS, 1901-21. 6 file boxes.

Warrants and subpoenas. No index. $11 \times 5 \times 14$. Clk. off., east rm.

X. JAILOR

The sheriff of every county is the keeper of the jail.¹ In Chesterfield the sheriff has delegated his duties of jailor to a deputy, who serves at the pleasure of the appointing officer.² From the beginning the jailor has been a fee officer.³

The duties of the jailor though lucrative are not numerous. He receives prisoners into his custody, provides proper quarters, food, and medical care for them, guards the jail, and attends court during its sessions and carries out its orders.⁴ In the jail record he keeps the description of each convict, the term of confinement, the nature of the offense, and the date when he entered jail. In the jail register he records the name of the convict, the rule violated in jail, and the date of such violations.⁵ This latter record is inspected by the board of supervisors and is open to the inspection of the circuit court judge and the governor upon request. To the state board of charities and corrections, the jailor reports monthly the record of each prisoner.⁶ Previously such reports were made to the circuit court by three citizens, one a physician, appointed by this court to inspect the jails.⁷ To the superintendent of the penitentiary, state auditor, and county clerk, the jailor makes a report of the prisoners delivered to the state penitentiary;⁸ and to the circuit court judge he reports the number of prisoners. This report is filed in the clerk's office.⁹

268. JAIL REGISTER OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY JAIL, 1935—. 1 vol.

Shows name of prisoner; color; sex; charge; state, city or town; case; reason for being in jail; date of trial; sentence; fine; costs; release date; reason for release; actual date committed; actual date released. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 135 pp. 13 x 10½ x 1. Kept by N. H. Cogbill, jail warden, in his store, southeast corner of courthouse green.

1. Hen., I, pp. 264-65, 340-41, 398, 460; *Acts* 1936, p. 381.
2. *Watts vs. Commonwealth*, *Virginia Reporter*, XCIX, p. 872 and *South Eastern Reporter*, XXXIX, p. 706 in *Code* 1936, sec. 2868.
3. Hen., I, p. 266; *Virginia Laws* 1759, p. 289; *Acts* 1936, p. 545.
4. *Shepherd*, II, p. 29; *R. C.* 1819, I, p. 235; *Acts* 1822-23, pp. 33-34; *Acts* 1866-67, p. 939; *Code* 1919, sec. 2857; *Code* 1936, secs. 2857, 2869.
5. *Acts* 1910, pp. 374-75.
6. *Acts* 1916, p. 50.
7. *Acts* 1870-71, pp. 354-55.
8. *Acts* 1906, p. 74.
9. *Acts* 1916, p. 734. This report was made to the county court judge prior to 1904, *Acts* 1895-96, pp. 150-51.

269. [JAIL RECORD], 1868-79. 1 vol.

Jail record shows name, by whom committed, charge, date, term of imprisonment, costs, when term expires. Accounts of jailor against commonwealth are also included. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 100 pp. 17 x 11 x ¾. Clk. off., east rm.

XI. CONSTABLE

The original government of the shires (counties) of Virginia was similar to that of the English shire; consequently, constables became a part of Virginia government from the beginning. At any rate they were an established office by 1637.¹ The constable was a police officer who executed the decrees of the court in his precinct and, according to the fees which he was entitled to receive, served warrants, summoned witnesses, whipped slaves and servants, served attachments, and removed from the county poor persons who were likely to become public charges.² In 1803 the justices of the counties were required to appoint as many constables as necessary.³ In 1807 the county court was instructed to divide the county into precincts and appoint one or more constables for each. Henceforward the constable was to confine himself to the service of warrants and executions in his precinct.⁴ In 1809 the sheriff was forbidden to serve warrants in the constable's precinct in those petty matters which could be determined by one justice of the peace.⁵

The constitution of 1851 provided for the election of constables.⁶ One constable was elected in each district for a two year term.⁷ He was also permitted to perform the duties of his office outside his district.⁸ By the constitution of 1869 the office was made a township one with three constables in each of these subdivisions for a term of three years. Little change was made in his powers and duties.⁹ When the township was abolished, provision was made for the election of one constable for a two year term in each magisterial district.¹⁰ By an act

1. O. P. Chitwood, "Justice in Colonial Virginia," Johns Hopkins University Studies, ser. XXIII, nos. 7-8, p. 113.

2. R. C. 1803, p. 219.

3. Shepherd, II, p. 403.

4. Ibid., III, p. 296.

5. Acts 1808-9, pp. 20-21.

6. Const. 1851, art. vi, sec. 30.

7. Acts 1857-58, pp. 28-32.

8. Ibid., p. 28.

9. Const. 1869, art. vii, sec. 2; Acts 1872-73, p. 157.

10. Acts 1874-75, p. 134.

of 1904 the term was increased to four years.¹¹ Since then no important changes in this office have been made. Since the constable merely executes orders of the courts and justices of the peace and returns these orders to the county clerk, he has no records of his own.

XII. CORONER

"Coroners are ancient officers . . . and were of old times the principal conservators of the peace within their county."¹ They seem to have existed in Virginia before 1674² and, like the sheriffs, were appointed by the governor from the county courts' members to hold the office in *ex-officio* capacity.³ The office of coroner is the only one which has never been made elective.

The constitution of 1776 provided that the "Coroners shall be nominated by the respective courts, approved by the Governour, with advice of the Privy Council, and commissioned by the Governour."⁴ An act of 1792 required the county court to nominate two persons residing within the county, one of whom was to be approved and commissioned by the governor, with the advice of the council, and hold office during good behavior. The number of coroners in each county was left to the discretion of the county court.⁵ By an act of 1896 the county court judge was required to appoint one or more coroners, at his discretion, to serve for two years. In 1903 this appointive power was transferred to the judge of the circuit court.⁶

By an act of 1910, which is still in force, the coroner's term was increased from two to four years and he was required to be a registered physician. Prior to this, a physician was called in at inquests upon the coroner's request only.⁷

The judicial duty of the coroner was confined to the holding of inquisitions where persons met violent or unnatural deaths. He was required to summon twelve freeholders to appear at the place of inquest for the purpose of establishing the circumstances of the case and

11. *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 506, 743.

1. W. W. Hening, *The New Virginia Justice*, p. 137.

2. *Hen.*, II, p. 325.

3. *Ibid.*; P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, I, p. 603.

4. *Form of Government* 1776, art. xv.

5. Shepherd, I, pp. 48-49; *Code* 1887, sec. 891.

6. *Acts* 1895-96, p. 696; *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 574-75.

7. *Acts* 1847-48, p. 137; *Acts* 1910, pp. 344-45; *Code* 1919, sec. 2815.

determining guilt, where necessary. After guilt had been established, the coroner took possession of all the guilty person's real and personal property until he was either found or surrendered himself. It was also his duty to deliver the guilty person to the sheriff to be committed to jail until the next term of court was held, and he was allowed authority, similar to that of a justice of the peace, to summon examining courts. He acted, in all respects, as administrator of the deceased person's estate, took oath as administrator and trustee, and rendered an inventory and appraisement to the court.⁸

In case of a vacancy in the office of sheriff, the coroner performed all of his duties except those which related to the collection of public taxes and levies. Even this exception was removed by an act of 1816.⁹

"For the performance of any of the duties of a coroner (except only the taking of an inquest) such coroner may appoint one or more deputies, who, being approved by the court of the county . . . and having taken the proper oaths . . . and having given . . . bond and security . . . shall be duly qualified to discharge the duties of his office."¹⁰

The duties of the coroner have remained substantially unchanged. When acting in his judicial capacity, he is required to keep a record of deaths in relation to which he acts officially and a fee book wherein are entered the fees for every service performed by him. He makes returns of all inquisitions, written testimonies, and recognizances to the circuit court.¹¹ No records for this office were found in Chesterfield.

XIII. COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE

With the formation of the shires, the sheriff was the tax-assessing agent. In 1645, however, a special county officer was appointed by the county court to take a list of all the tithable persons and property.¹ In 1660, and again in 1661, each county was divided into precincts and a commissioner to take the tithables was appointed for each precinct. An act of 1777 provided for the annual election of three commissioners

8. Hening, *op. cit.*, p. 138; Shepherd, I, pp. 49-50; R. C. 1819, I, pp. 288-90.

9. Shepherd, III, p. 295; *Acts* 1816, p. 9; *Acts* 1818, pp. 16-17.

10. *Acts* 1818, p. 17.

11. Shepherd, I, p. 50; *Acts* 1852-53, p. 42; *Code* 1919, secs. 3494, 4812; *Code* 1936, sec. 4812.

1. Hen., I, pp. 305-6, 329.

of the tax. However, in 1782 the county court was authorized to appoint two commissioners triennially.²

Beginning in 1792 two commissioners of the revenue, so-called for the first time, were appointed annually. They were required to take a list of taxable property and to make four alphabetical copies, retaining one and sending the others to the county clerk, sheriff, and state auditor.³ To the county court they returned annually a list of all licenses granted to merchants and a list of all free negroes or mulattoes in their districts.⁴ Every year they also furnished to the escheators a list of the lands left by any person dying intestate and without heirs.⁵

Two additional duties were imposed upon the commissioners in 1853: (1) to list in the district every male white citizen who would be twenty-one years of age at the next general election, and (2) to make an annual registration of births and deaths.⁶ In 1860 they were required to assess the value of machinery and fixtures used in manufacturing, and to assess the value of buildings and improvements on real estate.⁷ By the constitution of 1851 they were elected by the people for a two year term.⁸

During the period of township government, 1870-75, the county commissioners of the revenue were called assessors of the tax, entry 294. Chesterfield annually elected seven assessors, one for each township.⁹ After this form of government was abolished, Chesterfield had two commissioners of the revenue popularly elected for four year terms.¹⁰ A temporary change was made in the method of selecting commissioners. In 1906 they were appointed by the circuit court, but in 1908 they were again elected by the people.¹¹ Since 1927 there has been but one commissioner of the revenue in Chesterfield, and he has been paid a regular salary since 1932 instead of receiving fees and commissions as formerly.¹²

2. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 19, 83; IX, pp. 351-52; XI, pp. 142-43.

3. Shepherd, I, pp. 53-55.

4. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 146, 202, 301.

5. *R. C.* 1819, I, p. 295.

6. *Acts* 1852-53, pp. 7, 41.

7. *Acts* 1859-60, pp. 11-12.

8. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 30; *Acts* 1855-56, p. 8.

9. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 2; *Acts* 1869-70, p. 80.

10. *Acts* 1874-75, p. 215; *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 110, 112; *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 106.

11. *Acts* 1906, p. 252; *Acts* 1908, p. 66.

12. *Acts* 1926, p. 462; *Const.* 1902, art. vii, sec. 110 (as amended in 1928); *Acts* 1932, p. 892.

Although a few minor duties have been imposed upon the commissioner of the revenue, his main function is still to assess the value of land and personal property.

Land Records

270. LAND BOOK, 1791—. 100 vols. (5, 12, 12, 12, 15, 16, 178-188; 83 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Land Book Charlotte and Chesterfield, 1933-35; Land Book Chesterfield County Auditor's Office of Virginia, 1791-1863.

Land tax lists by districts, table of tracts of lands by districts, list of mineral lands under development, fair market value of tracts of land, standing timber. Recapitulation at end of each year. White and colored listed separately. Shows names of persons owning land; residence; nature of estate; number of acres in each tract of land; name of tract and description of land as to water course, mountains or other places on or near which it lies; distance and bearing from courthouse; total value of land per acre including buildings; the sum included in the value of each tract of land on account of buildings; total amount of land and building; amount of tax. 1791-1865 not arr.; 1866— arr. by districts and alph. by landowners. 1791-1865 hdw. on hdr. forms; 1866-1922 hdw. on printed forms; 1923— typed on printed forms. Aver. 280 pp. 28 x 17 x 1½. 15 vols., 1791-1863, 1933-35, V. S. L., archives stack-rm.; 57 vols., 1814-23, 1925—, clk. off., north rm.; 3 vols., 1864-65, So. Rich. storage; 14 vols., 1923—, treas. off.; 11 vols., 1925-28, 1931—, comm. rev. off.

271. LIST OF LAND TAX BOOKLETS, 1786-1815. 1 package.

List of land tax booklets shows name of landowner and description of land. Arr. alph. by landowners. Hdw. 8 x 12 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

272. REAL ESTATE TAX BOOK 1802-3, 1811-13, 1823-25, 1832-34, 1844. 5 vols. Title varies: Tax Book, 1802-3, 1811-13, 1823-25, 1832-34.

Shows record of county taxes collected; county and district school tax, and county levy. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 125 pp. 16 x 7 x 1. So. Rich. storage.

273. LANDS NOT ASCERTAINABLE SINCE 1832, 1832. 1 vol. (Albemarle through York County vol.).

Shows names of owner, year returned, location of land, number of acres. Arr. alph. by landowners. Indexed by counties. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 259 pp. 13½ x 8½ x 1¼. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

274. [MEMORANDA FOR LAND ASSESSMENTS], 1937—. 20 file boxes (Bermuda, A-L, M-Z; Clover Hill; Dale; Manchester,

Commissioner of Revenue—Personal Property and Income (275-277)

A-L, M-Z; Matoaca, A-L, M-Z; Midlothian Lots; Midlothian Acres; Bermuda Lots; Ettrick Lots; Colonial Heights, A-L, M-Z; Manchester Lots, A-K, K-Z; Bermuda, Clover Hill, Dale Acres, Manchester, Matoaca Acres—Colored; Midlothian Acres, Colonial Heights Acres—Colored; Bermuda and Manchester Lots—Colored; Miscellaneous—all districts).

Cards from which land books are made up. They cover all the land in Chesterfield County. Each file is arr. alph. by name of landowner. 9 x 6 x 17. Comm. rev. off.

275. PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS — EXTENSION OF LOCAL LEVIES ON REAL ESTATE, 1928, 1930-32, 1934-36. 7 sheets in a bin.

Shows corporation, kind, address, district, assessed value, rate of levy, local levies. Dated but not arr. chron. Sheet 17 x 24; bin 11 x 25 x 20. Comm. rev. off.

276. TAXES ASSESSED, 1872-79. 21 vols.

Shows names, state revenue, county levy, county school levy, district school levy, total for Midlothian, Matoaca, Dale, Bermuda, Clover Hill districts. Arr. by districts. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 46 pp. 13½ x 9 x 1½. So. Rich. storage.

Personal Property and Income

277. PROPERTY BOOK, 1791-1859, 1865-79, 1924—. 61 vols. (11, 31, 32, 317-334; 40 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Personal Property Book, Chesterfield County, 1931; Chesterfield, 1791-1859; Property Book Chesterfield County Auditor's Office, 1865-71; Property Book Assessors, 1871; Property Book Charlotte and Chesterfield Counties—Assessors, Auditor's Office, 1872-79.

All the information is put on special forms showing name and address, poll tax, intangible property for state taxes, intangible property for local taxes, total county and district levies. Form for recapitulation of persons and property assessed for taxation at end of year. Arr. by districts, incorporated towns, and race; also alph. arr. by property owner. 1791-1845 hdw.; 1845-59, 1865-79, 1925 hdw. on printed forms; 1924, 1926—typed on printed forms. Aver. 300 pp. 20½ x 13 x 1½. 30 vols., 1791-1859, 1865-79, 1931, V. S. L., archives stack-rm.; 11 vols., 1924-25, 1927, 1929-36, clk. off., north rm.; 10 vols., 1925-28, 1931-36, comm. rev. off.; 10 vols., 1927—, treas. off.

Commissioner of Revenue—Capitation

(278-284)

278. LIST OF TAXABLE PROPERTY IN CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1786. 2 unbound booklets.

Shows names of owners and list of property. Arr. alph. by property owners. Hdw. 50 pp. $11\frac{3}{4}$ x $7\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{4}$. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

279. VIRGINIA STATE INCOME BOOK (of Chesterfield County), 1925—. 20 vols.

Shows name, address, total income, deductions, exemptions, value of taxable income, total tax, penalty, aggregate taxes, penalty. Arr. alph. by taxpayer. Typed on printed forms. 25 pp. 17 x 17 x $\frac{1}{4}$. 12 vols., 1925-36, comm. rev. off.; 8 vols., 1928-30, 1933—, treas. off., va.

Capitation

280. POLL TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1930-35. 1 file box.

Shows name, total tax, when paid. Arr. by districts and alph. by taxpayer. $9\frac{1}{2}$ x $6\frac{1}{2}$ x 25. Treas. off., va.

281. [ASSESSMENT OF STATE CAPITATION TAXES], 1937—. 1 file box.

Shows name, district, year assessed (omitted), of age, amount, penalty, interest, total. Arr. by persons assessed. $5\frac{1}{2}$ x 15 x 31. Comm. rev. off.

Licenses

282. REPORT OF LICENSE ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE, 1899-1927. 1 file box.

Licenses issued to merchants and others showing name of person; date; firm, company, or corporation; place of business; time at which license begins; time expires. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

283. STATE APPLICATION FOR LICENSES, 1932-35, 1937—. 4 bundles and 1 file drawer.

Shows name, date, kind of license, when license begins, time expires. Arr. by applicants. File 11 x 13 x 31; bundles 11 x 9 x 5. 4 bundles, 1932-35, clk. off., center rm.; 1 file, 1937—, comm. rev. off.

Interrogatories

284. [TAX INTERROGATORIES], 1916, 1934—. 17 bundles and 9 file boxes. Title varies: Interrogatories, etc., Returned by Commissioner, 1936—.

Tax returns from Bermuda, Manchester, Matoaca, Colonial Heights, Clover Hill, Dale, Ettrick Sanitary District Number One, Midlothian, show name, address, description of property, and amount. 1916, 1934-35, no index;

Assessors

(285-289)

1936—, arr. by districts and alph. by person assessed. 8 boxes 13 x 11½ x 28; 1 box 11 x 5 x 14; 6 bundles 5½ x 15 x 10; 11 bundles 18 x 9 x 4. 11 bundles, 1916, 1934, and 1 file, 1936—, clk. off., north rm.; 6 bundles, 1935, and 8 files, 1936—, comm. rev. off.

285. ASSESSMENT INTERROGATORIES, 1913, 1917-20, 1931-33. 16 bundles. Title varies: Interrogatories for Listing by Tax Payers to Commissioner of Revenue, 1913, 1917-19.

Assessment interrogatories show name, address, description of property. Dated but not arr. chron. 18 x 9½ x 10. Clk. off., center rm.

286. INCOME TAX RETURNS, 1916, 1935—. 1 file box and 1 envelope.

Income tax returns show name of person assessed, amount of tax, amount of income. No index. Box 11 x 5 x 14; envelope 10 x 12 x ½. 1 file, 1916, clk. off., north rm.; 1 envelope, 1935—, west rm.

287. MERCHANT'S INTERROGATORIES—INCOME, 1923. 1 bundle.

Merchant's interrogatories show name of merchant, amount of tax, amount of capital, amount earned. No index. 14 x 9 x 2. Clk. off., center rm.

288. FIDUCIARY TAX RETURNS, 1932. 1 file box.

Tax returns of administrators and executors show name, address, and amount of tax. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

For treasurer's fiduciary taxes, see entry 313.

Correspondence

289. [CORRESPONDENCE], 1937—. 1 file box.

Commissioner of revenue's correspondence concerning land and property assessments, errors and omitted taxes, and licenses. Arr. by subject. 11 x 13 x 31. Comm. rev. off.

XIV. ASSESSORS

The county court was authorized in 1870 and every five years thereafter to appoint assessors of land, equal in number to the commissioners of revenue. Furnished with a copy of the land book for the county, a list of the conveyances recorded since the book was made out, and a list of the land grants for the preceding year, the assessors were required to examine all lands and lots with the improvements thereon and to ascertain and assess their cash value. In the form of land books they made two copies of assessments, one each for the county clerk and the auditor of public accounts. The county court heard petitions for the correction of erroneous assessments and when

the assessments were changed, the county clerk notified the auditor and assessors.¹ Temporary reassessment acts were passed in 1871-72 and in 1872-73.²

By an act of 1884 the assessors, appointed by a board consisting of the judge and clerk of the county court and the attorney for the commonwealth, were required to make three copies of the assessment books, the additional copy for the commissioner of revenue.³

The constitution of 1902 authorized the general assembly to provide for a reassessment of real estate in the year 1905 and every fifth year thereafter.⁴ Subsequent acts provided for the appointment of assessors by the circuit court and for the correction of erroneous assessments by the court and the local board of review. The county clerk was to notify the auditor, assessor, and commissioner of revenue of any changes made in assessments.⁵

In 1926 the assessors were abolished and all of their duties were conferred upon the commissioners of the revenue.⁶ However, assessors were reinstated as county officers in 1930,⁷ and by an order of the board of supervisors a reassessment of lands was made in Chesterfield at that time. No assessment was made in 1934, but the circuit court has appointed four assessors for 1938. Henceforth, the circuit court is authorized to appoint assessors for Chesterfield every four years.⁸

Assessors have no definite terms of office, since their work is completed in a few months during reassessment years.

290. [GENERAL REASSESSMENT LAND BOOKS], 1925, 1930. 3 vols.

Reassessment of tracts of land, standing timber trees, buildings, and improvements shows names of owners, residence, kind of estate, number of acres, description, distance from courthouse, value of land per acre including buildings, sum added on account of building, total value of land and buildings. Arr. by race and district, also alph. by landowners. Typed on printed forms. 100 pp. 17 x 22 x 3/4. Comm. rev. off.

291. [ASSESSMENTS OF LANDS AND LOTS], 1930. 1 package.
Originals show reassessment of tracts of land, standing timber trees,

1. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 335-37, 564-66.

2. *Acts* 1871-72, pp. 36-39; *Acts* 1872-73, pp. 153-56.

3. *Acts* 1884, pp. 113, 115.

4. *Const.* 1902, art. xiii, sec. 171.

5. *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 610-14; *Acts* 1915, pp. 156-57.

6. *Acts* 1926, p. 875.

7. *Acts* 1930, p. 870; *Acts* 1932, p. 118.

8. *Acts* 1934, p. 25; *Acts* 1936, p. 55.

Local Board of Review

(292-294)

buildings, and improvements; also contains reassessment of fair market value of town lots, buildings, and improvements. No index. 17 x 27 x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

292. ASSESSMENTS OF LANDS AND LOTS, 1930. 1 vol.

Copies of reassessments of tracts of land, standing timber trees, buildings, and improvements. Also contains reassessment of fair market value of town lots, buildings, and improvements. Recapitulation sheets at rear. Arr. by race, and alph. by landowners. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 17 x 27 x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

293. [ASSESSOR'S BOOK] CHESTERFIELD, CULPEPER, CUMBERLAND, DINWIDDIE, DODDRIDGE, ESSEX, ELIZABETH CITY, FAIRFAX, FAUQUIER, FAYETTE COUNTIES, 1820, 1840, 1856. 3 vols. (4, 4; 1 vol. not numbered). Title varies: Brookes, Campbell including Lynchburg, Charlotte, Caroline and Chesterfield including Manchester, 1920; Charlotte, Chesterfield, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Elizabeth City, Essex and Fairfax, 1840.

Shows names of owners, residence, kind of estate, number of acres, description, distance from courthouse, value of land per acre including buildings, sum added on account of building, total value of land and buildings. Arr. by counties, alph. by landowners. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 405 pp. 14 x 16½ x 15⅞. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

294. PROPERTY BOOK, REASSESSMENTS, CAROLINE, CHARLOTTE, CHESTERFIELD AND CULPEPER, AUDITOR'S OFFICE, 1872. 1 vol. (2).

Names of property owner, description of property, and other subjects of taxation. Arr. by counties, alph. by property owner. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 16¼ x 21½ x 1¾. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

XV. LOCAL BOARD OF REVIEW

Created in 1915 and abolished in 1922,¹ the local board of review consisted of three qualified resident voters appointed annually by the circuit court judge. The board elected its own chairman. The county clerk, acting as *ex-officio* the clerk of the board, attended all meetings and kept a record of the proceedings in a book to be filed in the county clerk's office. However, no records of this board were found in Chesterfield.

Annually, before June 1, the commissioners of revenue returned to the local board of review a copy of the personal property interroga-

1. *Acts* 1915, pp. 155-58; *Acts* 1922, p. 514.

tories of taxpayers. The board reviewed these interrogatories and ascertained the fair market value of tangible and intangible personal property, money, and income, reporting the same to the commissioners of revenue for assessment. Within sixty days after the tax books had been made out, the board had concurrent power with the circuit court to correct erroneous assessments. The board directed the commissioners of the revenue to enter upon the land and property books any omitted real or personal property, to correct erroneous entries, and to cancel duplicate assessments. The board likewise reviewed fiduciary and other reports of the examiner of records as well as statements of purchases by merchants.

During the year of the quinquennial assessment of real estate and the year following, the local board of review devoted special attention to grievances and complaints regarding assessments of real estate and directed the commissioners to make necessary changes in the land books. In other years it made no changes in real estate assessments, except for previously unassessed lands, lots, or improvements.²

Two years after the abolition of the local board of review, its functions were conferred upon the newly created local board of equalization.³ Chesterfield has no such board.

XVI. COUNTY TREASURER

The office of county treasurer, although one of the most important financial and administrative offices, is of comparatively recent origin. Prior to 1869 the collection of taxes was one of the chief functions of the sheriff, but, by the constitution of 1869, the sheriff lost this function to the newly created office of treasurer. A county treasurer was to be elected by the qualified voters to serve for three years and, to facilitate the performance of his various duties, he was permitted to appoint deputies.¹

The treasurer was the cashier and bookkeeper of the county. As cashier, he received the state revenue, accounted for it, and paid it into the state treasury; received and disbursed the county levy; collected delinquent taxes—distrained for them, conducted the sale of delinquent land, and purchased the land in the name of the commonwealth

2. *Acts* 1915, pp. 155-58.

3. *Acts* 1924, pp. 289-90, 574-77; *Tax Code* 1936, secs. 344-48.

1. *Hen. I*, p. 342; *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 1; *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 79, 258.

when the bids did not cover the amount due on the land; collected, disbursed, or invested school funds at the order or warrant of the school board; disbursed the money collected, except the school funds, "on orders of the county or circuit courts or warrants drawn by the board of supervisors."² The land book, property book, and license list, furnished to him by the commissioner of revenue were his guides for the collection of taxes.³

As bookkeeper, the treasurer kept "a just account of all moneys received and disbursed by him for the county" and sent bi-monthly reports to the county clerk for filing; kept a warrant book in which he recorded all warrants or orders drawn upon him and presented for payment; accounted to the state for state revenue collected; and reported to the school board the condition of its finances.⁴

During the period of township government, there were two additional officers with treasurer's functions. They were the township collector, elected annually by the voters of the township, and the township clerk, who was *ex-officio* the township treasurer. The township collector served as tax collecting agent, collecting township levies and state and county levies within township bounds. The township clerk made the tickets for the township levy for the collector, made settlements with the collector, and disbursed the funds upon the warrants of the township board.⁵ The county treasurer took over all of the functions of these officers, upon the abolition of the townships.⁶

The office of county treasurer, being a recently created one, has undergone few changes. Since 1875 his term of office has been four years.⁷ His duties have also been increased to some extent. He now has to file annually a financial statement with the auditor of public accounts; keep a fee book; keep an account book of receipts and disbursements; after January 1, 1904, file with the county clerk a list of persons who have paid, six months prior to an election, poll taxes for the past three years; make out lists of uncollectible and delinquent taxes, real estate improperly placed, delinquent state and local taxes on tangible personal property, delinquent real estate, and unpaid state capita-

2. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 258-59; *Acts* 1871-72, pp. 83, 223-25; *Acts* 1872-73, pp. 378-79.

3. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 248, 298.

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 259, 261; *Acts* 1871-72, pp. 83, 223.

5. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 2; *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 284-85; *Acts* 1871-72, p. 301.

6. *Acts* 1874-75, p. 43.

7. *Ibid.*, p. 133; *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 110, 112.

tion taxes; and deposit funds in depositories approved by the county finance board.⁸

In the beginning, the treasurer was compensated by fees or commissions paid on the volume of state and local tax collections.⁹ Today the fee system has been abolished as far as the treasurer is concerned and he is on a salary basis. His initial salary was based on his net compensation for 1930, one-third to be paid by the state and two-thirds by the county. By a later act, his salary was based on the population of the county.¹⁰

Accounts

295. JOURNAL (Audit Entries by Years), 1932—. 2 vols. No title, 1932-36.

Treasurer's accounts contain date, description, posting reference, debits, credits, balance. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 12 x 12 x 1. Treas. off., va.

296. JOURNAL OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY (inside title), 1913-32. 1 vol.

Record of taxes for county school levy, district school levy, and roads. No index. Hdw. 235 pp. 16 x 10 x 1½. Treas. off., va.

297. DAY BOOK, 1932. 1 vol.

Treasurer's daily record of cash shows name, date, and amount. No index. Hdw. 122 pp. 17 x 8 x 1. Treas. off., va.

298. CASH BOOK AND CASH AND DISBURSEMENTS (inside title), 1934—. 1 vol.

Shows amount received, name of payer, explanation, county taxes, interest and advertising cost, state taxes and licenses, dog licenses, miscellaneous. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 300 pp. 18 x 32 x 2. Treas. pri. off.

299. LEDGER (County and State Taxes Collected), 1926—. 4 vols.

Shows date, tax, penalty, interest, advertising, summary, collection, memorandum of distributions, amount. Arr. by districts and alph. by subjects. Hdw. on printed forms. 400 pp. 10 x 12½ x 2½. 1 vol., 1926-32, treas. pri. off.; 3 vols., 1932—, treas. off., va.

8. *Acts* 1897-98, p. 940; *Const.* 1902, art. ii, sec. 38; *Code* 1919, secs. 2414, 2780; *Acts* 1922, pp. 599, 787; *Acts* 1926, pp. 351, 937-38; *Acts* 1932, pp. 326, 831-32; *Tax Code* 1936, secs. 350, 354, 387; *Acts* 1936, p. 1064.

9. *Acts* 1871-72, p. 225.

10. *Acts* 1932, pp. 892-95; *Acts* 1934, pp. 736-37.

County Treasurer—Warrants and Checks

(300-305)

300. TREASURER'S ACCOUNT BOOK (inside title), 1927-31. 1 vol. Treasurer's personal account book showing date, names, race, sex, county tax, state tax. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 53 pp. 10 x 8 x 1/2. Treas. off., va.

301. RECORD OF COUNTY TREASURER'S REPORTS, 1874-1920. 3 vols. (2 vols. not numbered, 2). Title varies: Treasurers' Reports to Board of Supervisors (inside title), 1874-1917. Annual reports of receipts and disbursements of treasurer, by districts, showing: collections from real and personal property taxes, delinquents and penalties, licenses, dogs; and distribution of funds for county levy, county schools, district schools, district roads, and total. No index. Hdw. with few typed passages. 225 pp. 15 1/2 x 11 x 2. Clk. off., center rm.

Warrants and Checks

302. LIST OF ORDERS AND WARRANTS PAID BY TREASURER, 1874-82, 1922-29. 2 vols. and 1 bundle.

Shows by whom warrant and order drawn, fund, in whose favor, number, object, date, amount. Arr. chron. Hdw. on typed forms. Vols. 185 pp. 16 1/2 x 13 x 2; bundle 10 x 3 1/2 x 4. Clk. off., north rm.

For related records, see entry 303.

303. WARRANT REGISTER, 1932—. 4 vols. Title varies: County Warrant Register, 1932-34.

Shows fund, month, year, date, number, payee, explanation, amount. Arr. chron. Typed on printed forms. Aver. 600 pp. 12 x 12 x 2 1/2. Treas. off., va.

For related records, see entry 302.

304. WARRANTS (Stubs), 1871-78, 1889-91, 1895-96, 1899-1914, 1928—. 30 vols. Title varies: Orders, 1902-3.

Stubs of warrants drawn on county funds stating for what fund used, state, dog tax, county, poor fund. Funds stamped on the stubs with a rubber stamp. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 500 pp. 14 x 13 1/2 x 2 1/2. 7 vols., 1871-78, So. Rich. storage; 20 vols., 1889-91, 1895-96, 1899-1903, 1932-35, clk. off., north rm.; 2 vols., 1903-14, 1928-32, center rm.; 1 vol., 1935—, west rm.

305. WARRANTS, 1917-21, 1934—. 5 file boxes and 42 bundles. Title varies: Warrants of the County Treasurer, 1917-21. No title, 1934-36.

Paid warrants show name of person, date, amount, object, fund, number. No index. File 11 x 5 x 14; bundle 9 x 4 x 2. 4 files, 1917-21, clk. off., east rm.; 1 file and 42 bundles, 1934—, treas. off., va.

For related warrants, see entry 6.

County Treasurer—Taxes Paid

(306-313)

306. [WARRANT DUPLICATES], 1936—. 5 vols.

Shows fund, month, year, date, number, payee, explanation, amount. Arr. by funds. Typed on printed forms. 1,000 pp. 7½ x 9 x 4. Treas. off., va.

307. SCHOOL CHECKS, COUNTY CHECKS, 1912-13. 1 file box.

School and county checks show date, to whom payable, amount, on what bank written, signature. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.

For other county checks, see entry 57.

Taxes Paid

308. [TAX RECEIPTS BY DISTRICTS], 1871, 1894-96, 1898-1902, 1904-7, 1909, 1916, 1923—. 237 vols.

Stubs of tax receipts on real and personal property; income and capitation taxes; real estate, personal, personal and poll. Show levies for government, schools, pensions, roads. Arr. by districts. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 300 pp. 14 x 11 x 2. 6 vols., 1871, So. Rich. storage; 48 vols., 1894-96, 1898-1902, 1904-7, 1909, 1916, 1923, clk. off., north rm.; 96 vols., 1924-30, center rm.; 12 vols., 1930-31, treas. pri. off.; 75 vols., 1932—, treas. off., va.

309. TAX RECEIPTS, PAID TAX RECEIPTS, 1932—. 15 file boxes.

Tax receipts of Bermuda, Clover Hill, Dale, Matoaca, Manchester, Ettrick, Midlothian, Colonial Heights show name and address of taxpayer; state taxes and local levies; subjects of taxation; value, state, local; total state taxes and local levies; date paid. Arr. by district, alph. by taxpayer. Aver. 10 x 7½ x 25. Treas. main off.

310. DIRECT TAX, CHESTERFIELD, 1862, 1866, 1893-97. 8 vols.

Report of distributors of direct tax fund showing claims and vouchers audited, allowed and paid, name and amount, commission charged, claims and vouchers filed but not paid, name and amount, amount of direct tax received for distribution, balance, direct tax fund to be distributed, remarks. Volumes compiled from state land assessment books for 1860. Volumes for 1862-66 copied in 1892. Other counties bound in volumes with Chesterfield 1893-97. Arr. alph. by name. Indexed by counties. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 120 pp. 14 x 15 x ¾. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

311. MISCELLANEOUS, 1932—. 1 file box.

Lists of tax receipts and totals. No index. 10 x 6½ x 25. Treas. pri. off.

312. RECORD OF TAXES, 1921-32. 1 vol.

Shows date, number, name, district, who paid by. Arr. chron. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 180 pp. 14 x 11 x 1. Treas. off., va.

313. FIDUCIARY, 1923, 1928. 2 vols.

Tax returns filed by fiduciaries, such as guardians, executors, and administrators, on unsettled estates showing name of payer, residence, amount of

County Treasurer—Capitation Taxes

(314-318)

tax. Indexed by taxpayers and districts. Hdw. on printed forms. 200 pp. 16 x 13½ x 1¼. 1 vol., 1923, clk. off., center rm.; 1 vol., 1928, treas. pri. off.

For Fiduciary Tax Returns, see entry 288.

Capitation Taxes

314. [CARD RECORD OF CAPITATION TAX PAYERS IN COUNTY], 1932—. 8 file boxes.

Cards show name, address, district, and years for which tax is paid. Space for ten years on one card. Arr. by districts and alph. by taxpayers. 5 x 7 x 20. Treas. off., va.

315. CAPITATION TAX RECEIPTS, CAPITATION TAXES PAID, 1932—. 6 file boxes.

Receipts show date of payment, name of taxpayer, date of tax, district, signature of county treasurer. Arr. alph. by taxpayers. Hdw. on printed forms. 10 x 6½ x 25. Treas. off., va.

316. LIST OF PERSONS WHO HAVE PAID TAX BEFORE—, 1913-28, 1931—. 466 pamphlets. Title varies: List of All Persons in the County of Chesterfield Who Have Paid All Capitation Taxes Assessable against Them for Years—, 1913-28; List of All Persons in Town of Colonial Heights Who Have Paid Taxes Assessable against Them for Years—, 1925-28.

Shows name of person assessed, address, page, line, remarks. Arr. by districts and race; also alph. by voters. Printed. Aver. 11 pp. 10 x 6 x ⅞. 351 pamphlets, 1913-28, clk. off., north rm.; 115 pamphlets, 1931—, center rm.

317. OMITTED CAPITATION TAXES, 1913-33. 1 vol. 1910-13 in Papers Found after Filing Completed: Justice Warrants, 1916; Commissioner's Report of Omitted Capitation Taxes, 1910-13; Board of Supervisors, 1930, entry 253; 1937— in Omitted State Capitation and License Reports, entry 318.

List of persons omitted from list of capitation assessments. Shows date, name of taxpayer, address, date of certificate, for what year assessed, penalty, interest, total. No index. Hdw. 185 pp. 12 x 7 x ½. Treas. off., va.

For related records, see entry 319.

318. OMITTED STATE CAPITATION AND LICENSE REPORTS, 1937—. 1 bin.

License report shows applicant, trading as, place of business, business or profession, date of license, tax, penalty. Also contains Omitted Capitation Taxes, 1937—, entry 317. No index. 11 x 25 x 20. Comm. rev. off.

County Treasurer—Taxes Delinquent

(319-323)

319. CERTIFICATES — OMITTED CAPITATION TAX, 1914-15. 1
pigeon hole in safe.

Certificates of persons omitted from original tax list. No index. Pigeon hole 5 x 4 x 14; safe 46 x 48 x 28. Clk. off., center rm.

For related records, see entry 317.

Taxes Delinquent

(See also entries 126-31)

*Capitation, Personal, and Land*320. DELINQUENT CAPITATION TAXES, 1881, 1896-1903, 1927-32.
9 vols. and 5 duplicate vols. Title varies: Delinquent Poll
Tax, 1927-30.

Delinquent state capitation taxes show years, names of persons assessed, post office address, page, line. Arr. alph. by delinquent. 1881, 1896-1903 hdw. on printed forms; 1927-32 typed on printed forms. Aver. 243 pp. 17 x 11 x 1. 8 vols., 1881, 1896-1903, 1927-31, clk. off., north rm.; 5 duplicate vols., 1927-31 and 1 vol., 1932, treas. off.

For delinquent capitation taxes, see entries 321, 322.

321. DELINQUENT CAPITATION AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES,
1896-1926. 5 vols. (1 vol. not numbered, 2-5). Title varies:
Delinquent Capitation and Property Taxes, 1909-13; Delin-
quent Capitation, etc., 1896-1903.

Shows name, poll tax, property tax for support of government and free schools, state taxes and penalty, county levies and penalty. Arr. by race and district; alph. by name of person assessed. Hdw. on printed forms. 515 pp. 16 x 12 x 2½. Clk. off., north rm.

For delinquent capitation taxes, see entries 320, 322; for delinquent personal property, see entries 322, 323.

322. DELINQUENT REAL, PERSONAL AND CAPITATION (inside
title), 1927, 1929-35. 9 vols.

Shows name of person assessed, address, description of property, tax, also capitation tax. Arr. by districts, also alph. by name of person assessed. Typed on printed forms. 150 pp. 17 x 14 x 1. Treas. off., va.

For delinquent capitation, see entries 320, 321; for delinquent personal property, see entries 321, 323; for delinquent real, see entries 323-28, 335.

323. DELINQUENT REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES, 1927-
32. 6 vols. and duplicate set.

Three types of forms in these volumes all containing name and address of assessed person showing (1) location, description, number of acres or number of blocks or lots of land, and local levies; (2) tangible personal prop-

erty, machinery and tools, merchant's capital; local levies; local capitation tax; (3) bonds, notes and other evidences of debt; money; moneyed capital in competition with national banks; shares of stocks; bonds of counties, cities, towns, and districts; capital not otherwise taxed; income; state taxes. Arr. by district, alph. by name of person assessed. Typed on printed forms. Aver. 200 pp. 17 x 14 x 1. 6 vols., 1927-32, clk. off., north rm.; 6 duplicate vols., 1927-32, treas. off., va.

For delinquent personal property, see entries 321, 322; for delinquent land, see entries 322, 324-28, 335.

324. DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAXES, 1931-35. 7 vols. Title varies: Delinquent Real Estate, Colonial Heights, 1931.

Shows names and address of assessed persons; location, description, number of acres or blocks of land; amount delinquent; collections; land sold to commonwealth. Arr. by district, alph. by name of person assessed. Typed on printed forms. Aver. 200 pp. 17 x 18 x 1/2. 5 vols., 1931, 1933, and 1935, treas. off., va.; 1 vol., 1932, clk. off., north rm.; 1 vol., 1933-34, east rm.

For delinquent land, see entries 322, 323, 325-28, 335.

325. DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE, 1935. 1 bundle.

Originals show name of person assessed, address, location, description, amount delinquent, collections. No index. 17 x 9 x 2. Clk. off., west rm.

For delinquent land, see entries 322-24, 326-28, 335.

326. DELINQUENT LANDS, 1865-84, 1887, 1890. 9 vols. Title varies: Delinquents, 1872, 1884; Chesterfield Delinquent Lands, 1865-83.

Shows name of delinquents, number of acres, location, years, kind of tax, taxes and interest. Chesterfield records bound with other counties. Also contains Delinquents (sheriff's record), 1865-70, entry 258. Arr. by counties. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 750 pp. 18 x 22 x 2. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

For delinquent lands, see entries 322-25, 327, 328, 335.

327. MEMORANDUM OF DELINQUENT TAXES, 1903-15. 5 vols. (4 vols. not numbered, 7). No title, 1906-15.

Shows name of landowner, number of acres, district, year delinquent, amount, date, paid. Indexed by delinquent. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 200 pp. 14 x 8 1/2 x 3/4. Clk. off., north rm.

For delinquent land, see entries 322-26, 328, 335.

328. DELINQUENT LAND (Sheets), 1900. 1 bundle.

Originals show name of owner, quantity, location and description of land, kind of taxes, taxes delinquent and penalty, date and amount of payments, land sold to commonwealth this year and prior years, fees due treasurer. Arr. alph. by delinquent. 16 x 2 x 4. Clk. off., east rm.

For delinquent land, see entries 322-27, 335.

County Treasurer—Taxes Delinquent

(329-336)

329. LEDGER (of Delinquent Taxes), 1912-32. 1 vol.

List of delinquent taxes from clerk of circuit court. Indexed by name of person delinquent. Hdw. 376 pp. 17 x 15 x 2. Treas. off., va.

330. [STATEMENT OF DELINQUENT TAXES], 1936—. 1 file box.

Notes on delinquent taxes. No index. 11 x 13 x 27. Clk. off., west rm.

Collections and Payments

331. PAYMENT OF DELINQUENT TAX ON LAND—AUDITOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTS, 1885. 1 vol.

Shows dates, owner, description, year and tax, interest, total amount, remarks. Chesterfield records bound with other counties. Arr. alph. by counties. Hdw. on printed forms. 264 pp. 14 x 17¼ x 1. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

332. LIST OF COLLECTIONS OF DELINQUENT LEVIES ON REAL ESTATE, 1932-33. 3 bundles. Inaccessible.

List of collections of delinquent levies on real estate. No index. 14 x 6 x 2. 1 bundle, 1932-33 clk. off., center rm.; 2 bundles, 1933, west rm.

For other records, see entry 338.

333. PAID BEFORE SALE, 1930—. 3 vols. No title, 1932-35.

List of collections of delinquent levies on real estate made by the treasurer before sale. Shows name of persons assessed, post office address, location and description, number of acres or number of block and lot of land, local levies, penalties, interest, costs, advertising, total, date of payment. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 125 pp. 17 x 14 x ½. Treas. off., va.

334. LIST OF COLLECTIONS OF DELINQUENT LEVIES MADE BY TREASURER BEFORE SALE, 1934—. 2 bundles. Inaccessible.

List of collections of delinquent levies made by treasurer before sale. No index. 17 x 9 x 2. Clk. off., west rm.

335. DELINQUENT LAND LIST, 1904-26. 4 file boxes.

List of land redeemed before sale and sale of delinquent lands. No index. 11 x 25 x 14. Clk. off., center rm.

For delinquent lands, see entries 322-28.

Land Sales

336. LIST OF LAND PURCHASED BY TREASURER IN NAME OF COMPTROLLER, 1933—. 2 bundles.

Originals show name of person charged with taxes, quantity of land charged, location, amount, quantity of land sold, date of sale. No index. 14 x 9 x 1. Clk. off., west rm.

337. [LIST OF DELINQUENT LANDS PURCHASED BY TREASURER IN NAME OF COMPTROLLER], 1934—. 1 vol.

Copies show name, location, amount delinquent. Arr. by districts and alph. by delinquent. Typed on printed forms. 125 pp. 17 x 14 x ½. Treas. off., va.

For other records, see entry 338.

338. DELINQUENT LANDS AND SALES FOR TAXES, 1886—. 7 vols. (1, 2, 5 vols. not numbered). Title varies: Delinquent Lands and Sales and Redemption, 1929-31.

List of delinquent lands purchased by treasurer; lists of delinquent lands sold by treasurer to private individuals; list of collections of delinquent levies on real estate. The above contents incorporated on three separate forms. Arr. chron. and alph. by delinquent. 1886-1928, hdw. on printed forms; 1929—, typed on printed forms. Aver. 237 pp. 17½ x 15 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

For other records, see entries 332, 337, 339.

339. LIST OF DELINQUENT LANDS SOLD BY TREASURER TO INDIVIDUALS, 1934. 1 bundle.

Shows name, quantity of land, location, amount, quantity sold, date, name of purchaser, reason for sale. No index. 17 x 9 x 2. Clk. off., west rm.

For other records, see entry 338.

340. DELINQUENT LAND SALES, ACCOMAC THROUGH CUMBERLAND Co., 1865-96. 2 vols. (9, 1 vol. not numbered). Title varies: Delinquent Land Sales, Charlotte and Chesterfield, 1865-95.

Shows list of persons charged with taxes, quantity of land charged, local description of land, amount state taxes, penalty, interest, total for county. Also contains Delinquent Land Sales (sheriff's record), 1865-70, entry 259. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 500 pp. 18 x 22 x 3. V. S. L., archives stack-rm.

Licenses

341. LICENSES, 1925—. 1 vol. and 1 file box. No title, 1933—. Licenses for districts one and two showing date, names, place, class, amount. No index. 1 vol., 1925-32, hdw. on printed forms; 1 file, 1933—, typed on printed forms. Vol. 250 pp. 14 x 11 x 1½; file 4 x 30 x 25. Treas. off., va.

342. [VIRGINIA DOG LICENSES], 1934—. 4 file boxes and 8 pigeon holes.

Shows amount, date, district, sex, kennel or single dog, number. Arr. chron. and by district. Files 7 x 5 x 16; pigeon holes 4½ x 3 x 20. Treas. off., va.

For related records, see entry 354.

County Treasurer—Correspondence

(343-351)

343. [LIST OF DOG MEDALS], 1933—. 5 vols.

Shows license number, owner, district. Arr. by license nos. Typed on typed forms. 100 pp. 9 x 6 x $\frac{3}{4}$. Treas. off., va.

344. DOG RECORD SUMMARY (inside title), 1930-33. 1 vol.

Shows number of female dogs, number of male dogs, number of spayed dogs, and tag numbers of each. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 50 pp. 8 x 7 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Treas. off., va.

345. DOG TAX, 1904-7. 2 vols. Title varies: Dogs, 15th District, 1904-7.

Shows name of owner, number of male dogs, number of female dogs, tax. Hdw. on hdr. forms. Aver. 125 pp. $12\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x $\frac{3}{4}$. Clk. off., north rm.

346. MATOACA (Dog Tax Receipts—Stubs), 1905. 1 vol.

Shows amount, date, district, sex, kind of license (whether kennel or single), penalty for non-payment, total tax, date paid. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. $9\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

347. [RECORD OF PISTOL AND REVOLVER LICENSES], 1927-34. 1 vol. Discontinued.

Shows date issued, license number, license tax, to whom issued, address, make of pistol, factory number, calibre, style, from whom purchased, date purchased. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 25 pp. 13 x 20 x $\frac{1}{2}$. Treas. off., va.

Correspondence

348. SCHOOL BOARD NOTES, 1932—. 1 arch file.

Miscellaneous correspondence with the school board on financial matters. No index. 14 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Treas. off., va.

For related records, see entries 382, 401.

349. VIRGINIA PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FUND, 1936—. 1 arch file.

Correspondence and reports concerning fund appropriated for public welfare. No index. 14 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Treas. off., va.

350. MOTHERS' AID REPORTS, 1935—. 1 arch file.

Treasurer's memorandum of mothers' aid cases showing months covered in payments, name of mother, amount, and correspondence pertaining thereto. No index. 14 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Treas. off., va.

For related reports, see entry 427.

351. REQUISITIONS, 1933—. 1 arch file.

Correspondence in reference to requisitions for supplies. No index. 14 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 2. Treas. off., va.

County Finance Board

(352-356)

352. REMITTANCES—STATE TAXES, 1932—. 1 arch file.
Notes and correspondence with State Department of Taxation on remittances and state taxes. No index. 14 x 8½ x 2. Treas. off., va.

353. COURT ORDERS, DELINQUENT TAXES COLLECTED BY CLERK, ETC., 1934—. 1 wall file.
Correspondence concerning delinquent taxes. No index. 14 x 8½ x 2. Treas. off., va.

354. [DOGS], 1932—. 1 arch file.
Correspondence and notes concerning issuance of dog licenses. No index. 14 x 8½ x 2. Treas. off., va.

For related records, see entry 342.

355. [CORRESPONDENCE], 1929—. 5 file boxes.
Miscellaneous correspondence. Arr. by correspondent. 4 files, 1929—, treas. off., corridor; 1 file, 1936—, main off.

XVII. COUNTY FINANCE BOARD

The county finance board was created by a legislative act of 1932 because of a financial crisis caused by the era of bank failures. The board consists of the chairman of the board of supervisors, the treasurer, and a citizen of the county appointed by the circuit court for a four year term. The chairman of the board of supervisors is the chairman of the county finance board, and the clerk of the board of supervisors is *ex-officio* its clerk. The latter records the minutes.

The powers of the board are largely powers of approval. It approves the depositories chosen by the treasurer for the deposit of county funds; the securities offered by the depository; the bank or trust company in which the depository deposited its securities pledged in escrow; and the rate of interest paid by the depository. To aid in its approvals, the board receives a monthly report of the treasurer as to the amount of money deposited with each depository and the character and value of the securities pledged to protect it.¹

356. MINUTES OF FINANCE BOARD OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, 1932—. 1 vol.
Minutes of meetings of the finance board stating recommendations as to depositories of county funds. No index. Typed. 100 pp. 12½ x 7½ x ½. Clk. off., west rm.

1. *Acts* 1932, pp. 831-34; *Acts* 1933, pp. 63-66; *Acts* 1936, pp. 26-29.

XVIII. COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD

Among the manifold duties of the colonial sheriff, at least as early as 1655, were those of an election official.¹ In 1830-31 special officers were appointed for general elections. In that year the county court was required to appoint five freeholders for each election district to superintend the separate polls and three commissioners, who, with the sheriff, county clerk, and the commissioners of the revenue, examined and verified the poll books. However, the sheriff appointed the election writers and still took charge of the poll books. The clerk's office was the final depository of the poll, as it is today.² By an act of 1857-58 the commissioners of election were to be appointed biennially rather than annually.³

By 1869 the election machinery consisted of the sheriff, the county clerk, registrars, judges, clerks, and commissioners of election. The sheriff, whose election powers had decreased, merely posted election notices and took an oath to that effect before the county clerk. The county clerk distributed the registration books and poll books, received from the secretary of the commonwealth, to the registrars and election judges appointed by the county court judge. For each township there was one registrar, serving a two year term, who annually registered the new voters and posted the list of those registered. For each voting district there were appointed annually three judges of election. They appointed two election clerks, kept the poll books, superintended elections, canvassed the vote, sent the ballots and poll books to the county clerk and duplicate poll books to the township clerk. For each county there were five commissioners of election, appointed by the county court judge, who met in the clerk's office the second day after an election to canvass the county vote. The county clerk was *ex-officio* the clerk of this board of canvassers. He made out abstracts of votes which were signed by the commissioners and deposited in the clerk's office.⁴ This was the nucleus of the present election machinery in the county.

By the election law of 1884 an electoral board was created. It consisted of three qualified voters of each county elected by the gen-

1. Hen., I, pp. 411-12.

2. *Acts* 1830-31, pp. 19-22, 33; *Acts* 1833-34, p. 59.

3. *Acts* 1857-58, p. 18.

4. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 55-60, 74-79, 82-89, 102; *Acts* 1870-71, pp. 371-72; *Acts* 1871-72, p. 244.

eral assembly for a term of four years. This board appointed registrars and judges for the election districts and designated five of these judges as election commissioners to canvass the vote for the county. It also had the power to order a new registration of voters when necessary and was required to keep an accurate account of its meetings including all appointments and removals of registrars and judges.⁵

The constitution of 1902 changed the election law of 1884. Thereafter, the circuit court of each county appointed the electoral board for a three year term. This board has continued to appoint judges, registrars, and commissioners of elections, and since 1902 has appointed clerks of election, formerly appointed by the election judges.⁶ A special board of registrars for each magisterial district undertook a general registration of voters in 1902 and 1903. Copies of these registration books are in the county clerk's office.⁷

Both the registrars and the electoral board have continued to be the recording agents of the election machinery. The former register the voters, keep the original registration books, send a certified copy to the county clerk, and also keep the applications for registration.⁸ Chesterfield has twenty registrars. Only one was interviewed since all keep similar records.

In 1936 a new election act was passed for counties adjoining cities with a population of 180,000 or more. This act permitted such counties to appoint a general registrar biennially. The adoption of this act by a county would automatically abolish the office of registrars of election districts⁹ but Chesterfield has as yet not adopted it.

357. RECORDS OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD, 1931—. 1 vol.

Board meetings, appointment of election officials, and other business. No index. Typed. 200 pp. 8 x 10½ x 1. In store of C. C. Wells, Matoaca, Virginia.

358. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION SINCE JAN. 1, 1904 (Application for Registration), 1935. 1 bundle.

Shows name of state, city, precinct; date of registration; color; occupation;

5. *Acts* 1884, pp. 146-51; *Acts* 1885-86, pp. 541-42; *Acts* 1893-94, p. 782; *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 936.

6. *Const.* 1902, art. ii, sec. 31; *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 922-41.

7. "Registration Ordinance of the Constitutional Convention," secs. 1-9, in *Code* 1919, pp. clxxxvi-clxxxviii.

8. *Code* 1887, secs. 78, 84; *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 563-65; *Acts* 1906, p. 571; *Acts* 1934, pp. 499-500.

9. *Acts* 1936, p. 81.

County Electoral Board

(359-363)

length of residence in state, city, precinct; naturalization; exemption from paying poll tax. No index. Some hdw., some hdw. on printed forms. 3 x 8 x 1. Home of W. L. Burgess, registrar of Eyler's Store Precinct, Chester, Route 2.

359. ROLL OF . . . VOTERS, 1880, 1892, 1899, 1902—. 343 vols. Title varies: List of Persons, 1880; List of Registered Voters by Districts, 1892, 1899, 1908-12.

List of registered voters from various districts: Dale, Matoaca, Manchester, Midlothian, Bermuda, Eloise Hills. Shows name, residence, length of residence in county, length of residence in state; if naturalized, date of papers, by what court issued. Colored and white voters combined in same books except 1899 and 1902-3. Arr. alph. by voters. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 75 pp. 15 x 9½ x ¼. 320 vols., 1880, 1892, 1899, 1902-3, 1908-12, 1933—, clk. off., north rm.; 20 vols., 1933, center rm.; 3 vols., 1902—, home of W. L. Burgess, registrar of Eyler's Store Precinct, Chester, Route 2.

360. [VOTER'S REGISTRATION], 1906. 1 file box.
Permanent rolls of voters. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., west rm.

361. GENERAL REGISTRATION, 1902-3. 1 vol.
Rolls of voters registered showing at what precinct and magisterial district in county of Virginia by the board of registrars for said magisterial district in said county for 1902-3. Shows date of registration; number; name; date of birth; age in years; occupation; residence, length of residence in state, in county, in precinct; is he exempt from payment of poll tax as prerequisite to voting; if naturalized, date of papers, by what court issued; if transferred, when and to what precinct. Arr. by precincts. Hdw. on printed forms. 123 pp. 16 x 11 x 1½. Clk. off., north rm.

362. COUNTY POLL BOOK FOR USE IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS, 1933, 1935—. 33 vols.
Primary poll book shows county, district, precinct, date, name of judge, name of clerk, numbers and names of electors. Arr. numerically by electors. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 5 pp. 14 x 8½ x ⅛. 25 vols., 1933, 1935, clk. off., north rm.; 8 vols., 1933, 1935—, home of W. L. Burgess, registrar of Eyler's Store Precinct, Chester, Route 2.

363. COUNTY POLL BOOK FOR USE IN GENERAL ELECTIONS, 1928. 27 vols. Duplicates for some precincts.
Shows county, district, precinct, date, name of judge, name of clerk, numbers, and names of electors. Districts: Matoaca, Clover Hill, Midlothian, Manchester, Dale, Bermuda. Precincts: Appomattox, Matoaca, Winfrees, Ettrick, Winterpok, Skinquarter, Horner's Store, Midlothian, Bon Air, Bower's Store, Elkhart, Manchester—Number Three, Beach, Courthouse, Beulah, Chester, Drewry's Bluff, Eyler's Store. Arr. by districts and precincts. Hdw. on printed forms. 25 pp. 14 x 8½ x ⅛. Comm. rev. off.

364. [LIST OF VOTERS], 1934. 1 envelope.
List of voters by districts. No index. 10 x 15 x 2. Treas. off., va.
365. ABSTRACT OF VOTES, ETC., 1874—. 1 file box.
Abstract of democratic primary vote certifying election and vote on amendments to Virginia Constitution. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., north rm.
366. BALLOTS, 1933. 6 paper cartons and 1 wooden box.
Ballots from each district of Chesterfield County. No index. Paper cartons 16 x 11½ x 10½; wooden box 19 x 12 x 10½. Clk. off., north rm.
367. [ELECTION RETURNS FOR ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES], 1804, 1808, 1812. 1 drawer.
List of voters, roll for election of electors, governor's authorization for appointment of commissioner to supervise election of electors, count of votes. No index. 14 x 7 x 5. Clk. off., center rm.

XIX. SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTORAL BOARD

The school trustee electoral board was created by an act of 1877 ostensibly to remove the negro from the control of schools. It was formed purely to appoint the members of the school board. The school trustee electoral board, consisting of the county superintendent of schools, the county judge, and the commonwealth's attorney, was empowered to fill vacancies in the school board with members who could read and write and to vacate the offices of incompetent ones. The county judge became the chairman of the board and the county superintendent of schools, as clerk, became its recording agent.¹ In 1883-84 there was a change in the personnel and title of this board. The "general assembly shall . . . proceed to elect three citizens of each county . . . to be known as the county board of school commissioners."² The board served a four year term and functioned identically as the school trustee electoral board.³ In 1887 the board of school commissioners was abolished and the original school trustee electoral board was again adopted, even in title and personnel.⁴ Again in 1904 the personnel of this board was changed. The vacancy, created by the abolition of the office of county court judge, was hereafter filled by a circuit court appointee.⁵ Since 1928 all three members of the school

1. *Acts* 1876-77, p. 9.

2. *Acts* 1883-84, pp. 177-78.

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Acts* 1887, pp. 305-6.

5. *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 806.

trustee electoral board have been appointed by the circuit court of the county.⁶

This board, similar to the electoral college as an agency for indirect election, has been a recording office from its origin and the clerk of the board has been required to keep a record of its meetings.⁷

368. MINUTES OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTORAL BOARD (inside title), 1877—. 1 vol.

Minutes of meetings showing election of school board members. No index. Hdw. 350 pp. 12½ x 7½ x 1. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

XX. COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

In 1796 an attempt was made by legislative act to create an administrative body to introduce primary schools. This act provided for an elected board of aldermen of three members to serve a term of one year in each county. This board was empowered to divide the county into school districts of convenient size for the daily attendance of the free children, who were to be taught gratis for three years; to appoint and remove teachers; and to levy taxes for this purpose. These aldermen probably never functioned due to the suicide clause in the act. "The court of each county . . . shall first determine the year in which the first election of said aldermen shall be made, and until they so determine no such election shall be made."¹

The state literary fund was established in 1810. Made up of "all escheats, confiscations, fines, penalties and forfeitures" and "arrears of muster fines," this fund was first appropriated for the encouragement of education generally but in 1811 was assigned to the education of the poor.² In 1818 the county court was authorized to appoint annually from five to fifteen school commissioners to direct the education of indigent children.³ These commissioners were the active ancestors of the present county school board; the former aldermen were only nominal ancestors.

To promote further the education of the poor, the commissioners were permitted in 1829 to divide the county into school districts. In the same year, for the first time, a portion of the literary fund could

6. *Acts* 1928, p. 1202; *Acts* 1936, p. 502.

7. *Acts* 1876-77, p. 9; *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 807.

1. Shepherd, II, pp. 3-5.

2. *Acts* 1810, p. 15; *Acts* 1810-11, pp. 9-10.

3. *Acts* 1818, p. 11.

be diverted to free district schools when inaugurated by private contributors. Such schools were controlled by three trustees, two appointed by the contributors and one by the county school commissioners.⁴ Although the introduction of free schools was delayed by the unpleasant taint associated with the so-called charity schools, in 1846 a tax-supported system of district free schools was permitted subject to the approval of two-thirds of the county voters.⁵ To encourage the establishment of free schools the constitution of 1851 assigned one-half of the capitation taxes to the literary fund for educational purposes, and the enabling act of 1852-53 designated the entire capitation tax for this purpose.⁶

It was not until 1869 that a uniform system of free schools was made compulsory in Virginia.⁷ This new system was administered by a county superintendent and district school trustees appointed by the state board of education.⁸ At first three school trustees were appointed for each school district within each township for a term of three years. By a later act the school districts were enlarged to correspond in boundaries with the townships (magisterial districts after 1875).⁹

The three district trustees served in a dual capacity. They formed the district school board and together with the other district trustees they served as the county school board.¹⁰ As district school boards, they managed the district schools, employed teachers, reported estimates of expenditures to the county school board, reported annually to the county superintendent, and, through the clerk, kept records and took the children's census annually. As the county school board, they managed the county school funds consisting of state appropriations and the county and district levies; kept a record of its minutes, by-laws, and regulations.¹¹ The county treasurer collected and disbursed the school funds.¹²

4. *Acts* 1828-29, pp. 13-14.

5. *Acts* 1845-46, pp. 31-36.

6. *Const.* 1851, art. iv, sec. 24; *Acts* 1852-53, p. 43.

7. *Const.* 1869, art. viii, sec. 3.

8. *Ibid.*, art. vii, sec. 3; art. viii, sec. 2; *Acts* 1869-70, p. 403. The senate confirmed the appointments of county superintendents.

9. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 3; *Acts* 1869-70, p. 403; *Acts* 1870-71, p. 367; *Acts* 1874-75, p. 56.

10. The district school board was created in 1870, *Acts* 1869-70, p. 408. The county school board was not created until 1872, *Acts* 1871-72, p. 81.

11. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, secs. 7-8; *Acts* 1869-70, p. 409; *Acts* 1871-72, pp. 82, 86, 442.

12. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 415-16; *Acts* 1871-72, p. 443.

In 1877 the school trustee electoral board was created to displace the state board of education in the appointment of district school trustees. Although the district school boards were abolished in 1922, the school trustee electoral board still appoints the county school board.¹³ Today the school board is made up of one member from each magisterial district serving a four year term.¹⁴

Among the present duties of the county school board are the general administration of school matters, the erection and equipment of school buildings, employment of a division superintendent and teachers, auditing of claims and approval and issuance of warrants on the county treasurer for their settlement; the keeping of such records as minutes, receipts and disbursements, file of vouchers and contracts.¹⁵

Minutes and Business Procedure

369. MINUTES (of School Board), 1872—. 6 vols. No title, 1872-1936.

Minutes contain organization of school board, salaries, buildings, purchase of supplies, insurance, transfer of pupils. Arr. chron. 1872-1929 hdw.; 1929—typed. Aver. 400 pp. 11½ x 9 x 3. Sch. bd. off., west rm., va.

370. [SCHOOL BOARD RECORD], 1870-1907. 1 vol.

Appointment of superintendent, examination of teachers, and petitions to school board. Indexed by subject. Hdw. 235 pp. 18½ x 9 x 1. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

371. BY-LAWS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, VIRGINIA, undated. 1 vol.

Regulations concerning teachers and course of study. No index. Printed. 44 pp. 9 x 6 x ⅛. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

372. BOARD OF EDUCATION, SUPT'S. MEMOS. (Superintendent's Memoranda), 1933—. 1 file box.

Memoranda of meetings of board of education. No index. 12 x 3 x 11½. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

Accounts

373. DISBURSEMENTS, 1933—. 1 vol.

Receipts from state funds, county funds, district funds, and loans and bonds, show amount, date, and from whom received. Disbursements show to whom

13. See School Trustee Electoral Board; *Acts* 1922, p. 737.

14. *Const.* 1902, art. ix, sec. 133 (as amended in 1928); *Acts* 1928, pp. 1202-3; *Acts* 1936, p. 502.

15. *Acts* 1928, pp. 1202-5; *Acts* 1932, pp. 548-49; *Acts* 1936, pp. 499, 501, 504-6.

County School Board—Accounts

(374-381)

payable, general administration; instruction for regular day, evening, part-time, and vacation schools; other institutional costs; coördinate activities; maintenance of school plant; capital outlay; debt service; fixed charges. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 127 pp. 20 x 12½ x 2. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

374. [STATEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS BY SCHOOLS], 1924-28. 1 vol.

Shows amount expended, item, date, and date paid. Arr. by districts. Printed. 200 pp. 9 x 14½ x 1½. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

375. RECORD OF REVENUE OF COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND ITS EXPENDITURES (inside title), 1916-22. 1 vol.

Shows date, warrant number, total amount, salary to superintendent and supervisor, attendance, miscellaneous. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 71 pp. 14 x 11 x ¾. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

376. REPORTS OF COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, 1914-22. 1 vol.

Receipts show date, amount; disbursements show warrant number, total warrant, salary due superintendent and colored supervisor, individual school, attendance, miscellaneous. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 113 pp. 14 x 10½ x 1. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

377. [SCHOOL ACCOUNTS], 1916-22. 7 vols.

Accounts of funds show: date, source, amount for revenue; payee, number of warrant, amount, teachers (white male, white female, colored), repairs, janitors, maps, globes, charts, treasurer's commission, clerks and trustees, furniture, fuel and light, for expenditures. Arr. by districts: Midlothian, Manchester, Dale, Matoaca, Bermuda, Clover Hill. Hdw. on printed forms. Aver. 226 pp. 17½ x 15 x 2. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

378. JOURNAL (School Board), 1924-29. 1 vol.

Record of cash receipts showing date, amount, nature of receipt, and name of payer. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 15 x 9 x 1. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

379. LEDGER (School Board), 1924-29. 1 vol.

Accounts of school board show number, fund, nature of expenditure, date, folio, debits, credits, and unexpended balance. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 15 x 9 x 1. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

380. [COPY OF PAYROLL], 1929—. 1 vol.

Payrolls show names and amount for administration, instruction (white and colored), and transportation. No index. Typed. 800 pp. 9 x 11½ x 3. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

381. PAYROLLS, not dated. 1 file box.

Miscellaneous payrolls show name and amount. No index. 12 x 12 x 4. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

County School Board—Requisitions, Bills, Receipts

(382-392)

382. SCHOOL LETTERS, 1914-26. 1 vol.

Contains scrap book of accounts and correspondence in reference to school funds. No index. Hdw., typed and printed. 200 pp. 15½ x 12 x 1½. Clk. off., center rm.

For related records, see 348, 401.

383. MISCELLANEOUS, 1924-34. 1 file box.

Annual financial statements, contracts, and books. Arr. by subject. 11 x 13½ x 25. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

384. PAYABLE (Bonds), 1924. 1 vol.

A list of payable bonds shows term, when due, amount. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. 9 x 11½ x ½. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

Requisitions, Bills, Receipts

385. SCHOOLS, 1935—. 1 file box.

Requisitions for supplies for the various schools. No index. 13½ x 11 x 25. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

386. COUNTY SCHOOL INVOICES, 1931—. 4 file boxes.

School invoices show name, date, when due, amount. Arr. by subject. 12 x 12 x 4. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

387. PAID INVOICES—SCHOOL BOARD, 1935—. 1 file box.

Shows name, date, when due, amount. Arr. by payees. 13½ x 11½ x 27. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

388. BILLS, 1930-34, 1937—. 4 file boxes and 1 desk file. Title varies: Statements, 1932-34.

Miscellaneous bills for supplies show date, creditor, quantity, item, amount, total. 1930-34 arr. by subject; 1937— not arr. File 12 x 12 x 4; desk file 9½ x 14 x 1. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

389. BILLS PAID, 1922-28. 2 file boxes.

Paid checks and bills. No index. 15 x 19 x 11. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

390. RECEIPTS, not dated. 1 file box. Inaccessible.

No index. 12 x 12 x 4. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

Warrants

391. [CARBON COPY OF WARRANTS], 1928—. 12 bundles.

Carbon copies of warrants drawn show number, date, payee, amount, purpose. No index. 9 x 8 x 4. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

392. WARRANT REGISTER (inside title), 1922-33. 2 vols.

Shows date, warrant number, payee, posting reference, total amount, date

County School Board—Reports

(393-400)

paid, teachers, janitors, transport pupils, fuel, miscellaneous supplies. Arr. by warrant number. Hdw. on printed forms. 500 pp. $16\frac{1}{2}$ x 21 x 3. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

393. BERMUDA DISTRICT SCHOOL, 1913-14. 1 vol.

Shows date, apportionment, amount, date of warrant, number, in whose favor drawn, on what account, amount of warrant. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 304 pp. 17 x 14 x 1. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

Reports

394. REPORTS, 1934—. 1 file box. 1932— also in Reports, Statements, Budgets, Minutes, Resolutions, Petitions, entry 17.

Statements, budgets, minutes, resolutions, petitions. Arr. by subject. $13\frac{1}{2}$ x $11\frac{1}{2}$ x 37. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

395. [AUDITOR'S REPORTS], 1929-34. 1 bundle.

Complete audit of school revenue, expenditures, and property accounts. Dated but not chron. arr. 9 x 14 x $1\frac{1}{2}$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

396. [TRUCK REPORTS], undated. 2 file boxes.

Shows month, name and address of driver, length of each route, largest number of pupils carried during month, number of trips daily, least number of pupils carried during month, number of days truck operated during month, pupils carried to school, salary per month. No index. $4\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 x 16. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

Miscellaneous Papers

397. SCHOOL PAPERS, 1925—. 1 file box.

Deeds to property for school building purposes. No index. 11 x 5 x 14. Clk. off., east rm.

398. INSURANCE RECORD, 1929—. 2 vols.

Shows number of policy, name of county, agent, property insured, total amount, date of expiration. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp. 7 x $8\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{4}$. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

399. [SCHOOL BOARD FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES], 1937—. 1 file box. Kept for one year only.

Fire insurance policies on schools. No index. 11 x 13 x 10. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

400. MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS, COPIES OF RESOLUTIONS AND COURT ORDERS, 1930—. 4 file boxes.

Miscellaneous papers concerning libraries, playgrounds, demonstration work, and curricula. Arr. by subject. 12 x 12 x 4. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

401. [MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE], 1916, 1930—. 4 file boxes.

Miscellaneous correspondence in reference to equipment, supplies, repairs to schools. Arr. by subject. 12 x 12 x 4. 1 file, 1916, clk. off., center rm.; 2 files, 1930-34, sch. bd. off., west rm.; 1 file, 1934—, sch. bd. off., east rm.

For related records, see entries 348, 382.

XXI. DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Today the professional head of the county school board is the division superintendent. His ancestor was the county superintendent of schools elected annually by the board of school commissioners beginning in 1846. No professional training was required of him. In addition to acting as clerk and treasurer of the board of school commissioners, the county superintendent kept a register of all children in the county schools, apportioned the school funds by districts, fixed the compensation of the teachers of the indigent, and submitted the accounts and reports on the condition of the schools to the board of school commissioners.¹ The superintendent's records were kept in the office of the county clerk and certified copies were sent annually to the second auditor of Virginia.²

In 1869 when free schools were made compulsory in the counties, his method of election was changed. He was appointed by the state board of education with the sanction of the senate for a term of three years.³ It was the duty of the superintendent "to explain the school system and promote the desire for education among the people." This was probably necessary to counteract the hang-over of the charity stigma of the old schools. Furthermore he had to apportion the school funds among the districts and furnish a statement of funds to the county treasurer and the clerk of each school district; examine teachers and grant certificates; keep a record of his official acts; file official papers; assist in organizing district boards; inspect schools; hear appeals and complaints on school matters.⁴

Beginning in 1902 there were greater changes. The term of the superintendent was increased to four years and his duties were prescribed by the state board of education.⁵ The greatest change of all,

1. *Acts* 1845-46, pp. 29-30.

2. *Acts* 1846-47, pp. 25-26.

3. *Const.* 1869, art. viii, sec. 2; *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 403, 406.

4. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 406-8; *Acts* 1871-72, pp. 86, 461; *Acts* 1884, p. 122.

5. *Const.* 1902, art. ix, sec. 132; *Acts* 1902-3-4, p. 803.

however, was the transition from a lay superintendent to a semi-professional one. In 1916 he was required either to have a teacher's license, the equivalent of a first grade certificate, or to have served as division superintendent, or to have taught a number of years.⁶

Since then there have been two changes. The election of division superintendent has been again placed in the hands of the local school board who makes appointments from a list of eligibles certified by the state board of education.⁷ His qualifications have gradually been increased until he is now the real professional as well as the administrative head of the county schools.

Personnel

402. SUPT'S. (Superintendent's) RECORD OF TEACHERS' CERTIFICATES, 1913—. 1 vol.

Shows number, name, address, grade of certificate, when issued or renewed, when expires, when endorsed by superintendent, where educated, summer schools attended and date, remarks. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 16 x 10½ x 1½. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

403. TEACHERS, *ca.* 1918, 1930, 1933. 1 file box.

File of teacher's addresses showing name, address, and telephone number. No index. 13½ x 11 x 25. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

404. SCHOOL AND TEACHERS, July, 1933—. 1 file box (dated).

Questionnaires and contracts. No index. 13½ x 11 x 25. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

405. APPLICANTS, 1933—. 16 file boxes.

Elementary grade and high school teachers' applications; white male and female, negro male and female. No index. 12 x 3 x 11½. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

For related records, see entries 406, 407.

406. [REQUISITIONS, APPLICATIONS, AND REPORTS], 1933-34. 1 file box.

Requisitions, applications, and reports. Arr. by subject. 12 x 3 x 11½. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

For related records, see entries 405, 407.

6. *Acts* 1916, pp. 789-90.

7. *Const.* 1902, art. ix, secs. 132, 133 (as amended in 1928); *Acts* 1928, pp. 1201-2; *Acts* 1936, p. 501.

Division Superintendent of Schools—Reports

(407-415)

407. [APPLICANTS' CORRESPONDENCE], 1933. 1 file box.
Miscellaneous correspondence of applicants. Arr. alph. by correspondent.
9 x 2 x 11. Sch. bd. off., east rm.
For related records, see entries 405, 406.

408. [COMPLAINTS AND PETITIONS TO SCHOOL BOARD], 1923-24.
1 file box.
Complaints about personnel and petitions to school board. No index. 9 x
2 x 11. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

Reports

409. SCHOOLS GENERAL, 1933—. 1 file box.
Reports, promotions, and teacher's meetings. No index. 13½ x 11 x 25.
Sch. bd. off., east rm.

410. [SUMMARIES OF MONTHLY REPORTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS], 1921. 7 vols.
Shows teacher, days taught, pupils enrolled, average daily attendance, salary, amount deducted for pensions. Arr. by districts: Dale, Matoaca, Midlothian, Clover Hill, Bermuda, Ettrick. Hdw. on printed forms. 50 pp.
8¼ x 14 x ¼. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

411. TERM REPORTS, 1913-33. 2 file boxes. Title varies: Annual Reports, Records, etc., 1913-26.
Reports from each school showing names of pupils, ages, days present, grades. No index. 13½ x 11 x 25. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

412. [PRINCIPALS' REPORTS AND SUMMARY], 1936—. 1 file box.
Principals' reports on teachers and consolidated school reports. Arr. chron.
13½ x 11 x 25. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

413. [MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS], 1935—. 3 drawers.
Reports, registrations, teachers' records, information sheets, bulletins. Arr. by subject. 3 x 20 x 16. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

414. [TEACHER'S ACTIVITY REPORTS, EMERGENCY EDUCATION PROGRAM], 1934—. 2 file boxes.
Shows name of teacher, subject taught, date of first class meeting, enrollment, daily attendance. No index. 12 x 3 x 11½. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

415. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPORTIONMENTS (of Funds), 1914-25.
1 vol.
Shows date, source, amount, apportioned to, funds. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 77 pp. 14 x 8 x ¾. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

Division Superintendent of Schools—Individual School Records (416-420)

Individual School Records

416. INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RECORDS, 1936—. 12 bundles (Union Branch, Kingsland, Mt. Nebo, Centralia, Oclue, Pleasant View, Good Hope, Warwick Road, Beulah (2), Midlothian, Port Walthall).

Records of different schools of Chesterfield county. Arr. by schools. 5 x 8½ x ¾. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

417. VIRGINIA DAILY ATTENDANCE REGISTER AND RECORD OF CLASS GRADES, 1935—. 35 vols.

Shows pupil's name, parents, residence, grade, when enrolled, grade promoted to, date of promotion. Arr. by schools: Beach School, Kingsland, Midlothian, Gravel Hill, Winterpok, Mt. Nebo, Warwick Road, Union Branch, Pleasant View, Good Hope, Piney Branch, Centralia, Oclue. No index. Hdw. on printed forms. 25 pp. 11 x 8½ x ⅛. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

418. LETTERS, 1919-25, 1933—. 9 file boxes.

Correspondence in reference to director of school buildings, superintendent of negro education, elementary schools, division of rehabilitation. 1 file, 1933— arr. by correspondents or subjects; 8 files, 1919-25, 1937, not arr. 13½ x 11 x 25. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

Census

419. VIRGINIA SCHOOL CENSUS, 1915, 1920, 1925, 1930, 1935. 8 file boxes and 3 stacks. Title varies: District Clerk Return of School Census, 1915, 1920. No title for stacks, 1920, 1925, 1935.

Shows parents' names, addresses, occupations; distance from school or transportation route; children between six and twenty years of age, their sex, age, date of birth, attendance to public or private schools, inability to read or write, whether deaf, blind, or crippled. 1915 arr. by districts; 1920 not arr.; 1925, 1930, 1935 filed alph. by name of family. Box 13½ x 11 x 25; stacks 9 x 12 x 9. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

420. VIRGINIA SURVEY OF OUT OF SCHOOL YOUTH, 1935. 4 file boxes (Dale, Matoaca, Bermuda and Manchester, Clover Hill and Midlothian).

A survey of out of school youths between ages of fourteen and twenty-four shows name, address, last school attended, age on leaving school, last grade completed, if he desires instruction indicate how often he desires to attend classes, and which subjects preferred. Arr. by districts. 9½ x 4½ x 14. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

XXII. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
(OVERSEERS OF THE POOR)

The functions of the various welfare agencies in Chesterfield—the parish vestry, the overseers of the poor, the superintendent of the poor, and the county nurse—have been vested in one office, that of the county superintendent of public welfare, since the legislative act of 1936.

Prior to 1785 the parish vestry administered poor relief; however, the earliest office organized purely for welfare work was that of overseers of the poor. By an act of 1785 the county was divided into districts for each of which three overseers of the poor were elected by the qualified voters of the district for a three year term. At annual meetings they were required to report the number and condition of the poor and expenditures in their respective districts; settle the accounts with the county court, entry 43; lay and assess a poor levy to be collected by the sheriff or other appointee of the overseers. Furthermore, they were empowered to appoint a clerk, to provide for the housing, food, and medical care of the needy, to sell glebe lands for the benefit of the poor, to apprentice orphans without estate, to put vagrants to work, to prevent paupers from emigrating or immigrating from or to other counties. Beginning in 1829 the annual report of the overseers was sent to the state auditor of public accounts.¹

In 1852 the number of overseers per district was reduced from three to one and their term was extended from three to four years.² By the constitution of 1869, the overseer became a township officer, still elective, but for a term of one year.³ With the termination of the township government in 1875, one overseer of the poor was elected for each magisterial district for a term of two years. In 1903 his term was increased to four years.⁴

From the beginning, the powers of the overseers continued to be practically the same. They sent the poor from their district to the poorhouse; helped persons in their own houses with the consent of the board of supervisors; prevented persons from begging; ordered the removal of vagrants to their last legal residence; bound out, as appren-

1. See *Parish Vestry*; *Hen.*, XII, pp. 27-29, 273-74, 574, 713; *Shepherd*, I, pp. 118, 120; II, p. 314; *R. C.* 1819, II, pp. 264-79; *Acts* 1828-29, pp. 22-23.
2. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 30; *Acts* 1852, p. 64.
3. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 2; *Acts* 1869-70, p. 80.
4. *Acts* 1874-75, p. 134; *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 504, 743.

tices, minors apt to become charges of the county or placed them in a school for destitute children.⁵

The superintendent of the poor, established as a county officer much later than the overseers of the poor, coöperated with them. The constitution of 1869 provided for the election of one superintendent of the poor for a term of three years.⁶ In 1875 this office was changed to an appointive one and the tenure increased to four years. Henceforth, upon the recommendation of the board of supervisors, this officer continued to be chosen by the county court until this court was replaced by the circuit court in 1904.⁷

This officer took charge of the county poorhouse, when one existed; where there was none, at the order of the board of supervisors, he provided suitable places for housing the poor; received the paupers sent by the overseers of the poor; and reported to the board of supervisors the amount needed for the up-keep of the poor, to be incorporated in the annual levy.⁸ In Chesterfield his office terminated with the abolition of the almshouse in 1924.

The overseers of the poor continued the welfare work alone until 1926, when the county nurse assumed part of the welfare responsibilities along with her health duties. She did the investigation work at the request of the overseers. The overseers were abolished legally in Chesterfield by an act of 1930 providing that any county regularly employing the services of a county nurse and lying adjacent to a city having a population of 150,000 or more, was no longer required to elect overseers of the poor.⁹ At that time the nurse took entire charge of welfare work in the county.

Since September 1936, Chesterfield County has had a superintendent of public welfare appointed by the board of supervisors from a list of eligibles submitted by the state board of public welfare. Her salary is fixed by the appointing body. The money for conducting this work is appropriated by the state and county. As the executive welfare officer she acts as county probation agent, cares for the poor and administers the funds once controlled by the overseers of the poor, ad-

5. *Acts* 1871-72, p. 303; *Acts* 1878-79, pp. 307-9; *Acts* 1926, pp. 869-70; *Acts* 1930, pp. 939-40.

6. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 1.

7. *Acts* 1874-75, pp. 133, 355; *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 110, 112; *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 506, 742.

8. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 264-65; *Acts* 1874-75, p. 352.

9. *Acts* 1930, p. 124.

ministers mothers' aid funds, and has oversight of persons in the county paroled from county institutions. Some of the indigents are sent to institutions where they are equipped to become more useful citizens; for others, work is found; and those who are totally unable to provide for themselves are sent to the Richmond City Home according to a county-city financial arrangement. Under the direction of the state board of public welfare, the local superintendent serves as the board's agent for state work in the county, aids in finding work for the unemployed, investigates causes of distress, supervises dependent children placed in the county, supervises persons paroled from state institutions, keeps records as prescribed by the state board, and files copies with the county clerk and the state board.¹⁰ The superintendent of public welfare is assisted by an advisory committee of three members appointed by the board of supervisors.

The obvious absence of records of the overseers and superintendents of the poor is probably due to the fact that after 1870 they made their recommendations orally to the board of supervisors. The board, of course, incorporated these reports in their minutes. When the nurse gave up her welfare duties, she turned over to the county clerk her records prior to 1932, which have been filed with the board of supervisors' papers in the clerk's office, entry 4. Her records subsequent to 1932 were turned over to the newly created superintendent of public welfare and are filed in her office.

Procedure

421. APPLICATIONS (for Relief), 1936—. 1 file box.

Shows name of applicant, wife's maiden name, address, exact location; code classification; date, new, reopened; race; religion; civil status; nearest telephone; children's names, date of birth, others in household, relationship; financial resources; name of merchant and address, other agencies known to family, how referred (name person or agency); action taken; remarks. Arr. alph. Hdw. on printed form. 6 x 9 x 14. Wel. off., east rm.

422. DAY SHEET (Day Book), 1936—. 1 vol.

Shows date, name, case number, home visit, office visit, reference visit at office, reference visit outside; letters in, letters out; phone in, phone out;

10. *Acts* 1922, pp. 160-62; *Acts* 1934, p. 764; *Acts* 1936, pp. 374-77; *Southside News of The Richmond News Leader*, December 1, 1937, p. 5; Agreement between the City of Richmond and Chesterfield County, January 8, 1925, in the office of the city director of public welfare, Richmond, Va.

County Superintendent of Public Welfare—Financial Records (423-428)

date dictated, notes for dictation purposes. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed form. 75 pp. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times \frac{1}{4}$. Wel. off., east rm.

423. IN-TAKE BOOK (General Day Book), Sept. 1936—. 1 vol. Shows date; name of applicant, address; new, reopened, closed within year, reopened, closed last year; out of town inquiries; resident; transient; source of application; disposition; visitor. Arr. chron. by name of applicant. Hdw. on printed form. 75 pp. $10 \times 13 \times \frac{1}{4}$. Wel. off., east rm.

424. CENTRAL INDEX FILE OR MASTER FILE, 1933—. 2 file boxes. White cards for whites, pink for colored—show man's name, woman's name, address, district, worker; date opened, date closed; case number. One file for department of public welfare cases and one for works progress administration cases. Arr. alph. Hdw. on printed forms. $4 \times 5 \times 9\frac{1}{2}$. Wel. off., east rm.

425. [CASE RECORDS D. P. W. (Department Public Welfare)], Sept. 1936—. 1 file drawer.

Case records of each family that has been investigated for relief includes family face sheet, exchange slip (clear with Social Service Exchange in Richmond City), narrative case history, and general correspondence. The narrative case history shows referral, environment, social background, industrial history, financial history, health, relatives, religion, present situation, plan made by case worker, references. All correspondence relative to the case is kept in the folder also. Arr. alph. by name of family (case name). Typed on printed form. $10 \times 12 \times 24$. Wel. off., east rm.

426. OUT-OF-TOWN INQUIRIES, 1936—. 2 folders.

Correspondence about inquiries pertaining to Chesterfield residents who have relatives applying for relief elsewhere. Arr. chron. Typed and hdw. $12 \times 9 \times 1$. Wel. off., west rm.

427. [MONTHLY REPORTS], 1936—. 1 folder.

Monthly reports to the state department of public welfare show service and relief cases handled during month, total cases, obligations incurred, unemployed, employable, general home aid, mothers' aid, other children's work; applications, disposition of cases, new cases accepted, reopened cases accepted, cases closed, family and single persons analysis, total number of cases handled during month; summary report of obligations incurred and reconciliation of unobligated balance. Arr. chron. by date of report. Typed on printed form. 9×12 . Wel. off., west rm.

For related mothers' aid reports, see entry 350.

Financial Records

(See entry 349)

428. STATISTICAL CARDS, 1936—. 1 file.

Show name of county; name; address; sex; birth date; case classification;

County Superintendent of Public Welfare—Surplus Commodities (429-432)

marital status; physical condition, mental condition; occupational status; educational status; dependents—relatives; relationship to head; birth date; remarks; date; case status; total dependents (include head of case); district; case worker, department public welfare number: also shows record of assistance given; date; description, purchase order number, cash, food, clothing, fuel, rent, board, medical care, hospital, funeral expense, miscellaneous, total. Arr. by numerical classification. Hdw. on printed forms. 6 x 9 x 14. Wel. off., east rm.

429. [LEDGER OF ACCOUNTS AND FUNDS], 1936—. 1 vol.

In front of volume—register of obligations incurred shows line number, date, name of vendor, case number, purchase order number, paid by warrant number, total amount of order; distribution shows general home aid, aged 65 and over, aid to blind, child welfare, miscellaneous description, amount. In left hand corner a block showing funds available, balance fund; ninety percentage state funds received, ninety percentage local matching funds, refunds, other funds received, total amount available, expenditures this month, balance fund. Memorandum of administrative expenses in back of volume shows line number, date, description, paid by warrant number, total amount of voucher; distribution shows compensation of superintendent, compensation of aides—clerks, rent, telephone and telegraph, travel expense, stationary office supplies; miscellaneous description, amount. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 100 pp. 18 x 16 x 1. Wel. off., east rm.

430. PURCHASE ORDERS, 1936—. 1 file.

Forms made in triplicate; two go to merchant, one retained in office. Show department public welfare number; city or county; date, audit code; to whom; address; order to furnish assistance to value of —, to —, client's address; signature of client; title; quantity; description; price; amount; total; certification signature. Summary sheet at front shows number, date, order number, name, allotment, amount. Arr. alph. by merchants or doctors; recorded orders at front, paid orders at rear. Hdw. on printed forms. 10 x 12 x 24. Wel. off., west rm.

431. SCHEDULE OF APPROVED INVOICES, 1936—. 1 folder.

Form sent to treasurer showing approved list of invoices to be paid by treasurer of county. Shows number, name of vendor, address, amount for, paid by warrant number. Arr. chron. by date of invoice. Typed on printed form. 9 x 12. Wel. off., west rm.

Surplus Commodities

432. [CERTIFICATION OR CANCELLATION OF ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE COMMODITIES], 1936—. 1 folder.

A list of families eligible to receive surplus commodities made up by the superintendent of public welfare and sent to the commodities division of works progress administration. Shows name, number in family, address,

County Superintendent of Public Welfare—W. P. A. Records (433-437)

case number, distribution point; signed by county welfare department and authorized by certifying agent. Arr. chron. by month of year (one for each month). Typed on printed forms. 9 x 12. Wel. off., west rm.

433. [REQUISITION], 1936—. 1 folder.

Requisition to the surplus commodity distribution project. Shows present active cases, number of persons in these families; commodity, quantity; signed by superintendent of public welfare. Arr. chron. (one for each month). Typed on printed form. 9 x 12. Wel. off., west rm.

434. SURPLUS COMMODITIES ORDERS, 1936—. 1 file drawer.

Surplus commodities order blank filled in for surplus food distributed to families on relief through department public welfare but furnished by works progress administration. Shows case number, number persons represented on order, county or city, date, to whom, address, name of party receiving order, quantity, description, weight, received by. White copy goes to surplus commodity division at Petersburg; pink copy retained in superintendent of welfare's office. Arr. alph. by case name. Hdw. on printed form. 10 x 12 x 24. Wel. off., west rm.

W. P. A. (Works Progress Administration) Records

435. [CASE RECORDS—W. P. A. (Works Progress Administration)], 1933-36. 3 file drawers.

Case records of cases for relief certified under emergency relief administration and works progress administration. Contains family face sheets, and narrative case history, general correspondence, and notice of termination of employment. Arr. alph. by case name. Typed on printed form. 10 x 12 x 24. Wel. off., west rm.

436. W. P. A. (Works Progress Administration) REPORT TO WOMEN'S DIVISION, June 30, 1937—. 1 folder.

Shows number, month ending, district, location, operating project number, work project number; number men, women, white or colored working; date started, suspended, reopened, completed; work done; sponsor's contribution; number of people secured employment, released for seasonal work, increased income due to this training; signature of project supervisor. Arr. chron. Typed on mimeographed sheets. 12 x 9 x 1. Wel. off., west rm.

437. F. E. R. A. (Federal Emergency Relief Administration), 600, CHESTERFIELD, 1934—. 2 file boxes (Active Cases; Closed Cases).

Master card of all members of family that are eligible for work program (stating case name, address, total number of persons in case, case number, telephone, race, date, agency, relief district, county) under: (1) works progress administration certification—primary classification (industry) shows

last, first, and middle names, identification number; secondary classification (industry) shows relation to head, veteran, sex, marital status, date and place of birth, citizen by birth or naturalization, alien, declared intent, date, place; (2) national youth administration certification (form same as works progress administration); (3) civil works progress administration and national youth administration shows name, relation to head, sex, marital status, date of birth, veteran, citizen, alien, primary classification, secondary classification. Arr. alph. by case name. Hdw. on printed form. $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8 \times 11$. Wel. off., east rm.

438. C. C. C. CASES (Civilian Conservation Corps), 1936—. 1 folder.

Contains application for enrollment in civilian conservation camp, a list of selectees sent to the civilian conservation camp examining board, report to the state department of public welfare showing number of boys applying, number accepted, number rejected. Application for relief filled out same as that for other relief cases. Arr. chron. by date of application. Hdw. on printed form. Typed reports. 9×12 . Wel. off., west rm.

439. STUBS OF EMERGENCY RELIEF WARRANTS, 1934—. 1 vol.

Contains date, warrant number, to whom and for what paid, amount. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed form. 100 pp. $10\frac{1}{2} \times 15\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$. Clk. off., west rm.

440. [W. P. A. (Works Progress Administration) CORRESPONDENCE], 1935—. 1 file box.

Women's work, applications, and other works progress administration material. Arr. by subjects. $13\frac{1}{2} \times 11 \times 25$. Sch. bd. off., east rm.

XXIII. PARISH VESTRY

The parish vestry administered the affairs of the parish probably as far back as the first church at Jamestown. By 1635 the name was common in Virginia.¹ The vestry was composed of the minister, two or more churchwardens, and a number of men chosen by the parishioners.² Twelve of the foremost men of the parish served as vestrymen. Their term continued to be indefinite despite Bacon's temporary legislation limiting it to three years.³ The agents of the vestry were the churchwardens chosen annually by the vestry from among

1. P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, I, pp. 62-65.
 2. *Ibid.*, I, pp. 240, 290-91.
 3. *Ibid.*, II, pp. 25, 356; H. J. Eckenrode, *Separation of Church and State in Virginia*, p. 15.

their own members. In practice the vestrymen served as churchwardens in rotation.⁴

The vestry exercised various functions. (1) As the administrators of the church, they recommended a minister for appointment, determined the salary to be collected by the churchwardens, purchased a glebe, built a parsonage, and appointed churchwardens to take care of church property.⁵ (2) As the guardians of the public morals, they delivered to the county court a list of persons charged with misdemeanors.⁶ (3) As the parish taxing agent, they laid the parish levy, based on expenses and assessed on tithables, and appointed collectors. Gradually the collection of the parish levies became the function of the sheriff. He collected these at the same time that he collected the county taxes.⁷ (4) As welfare agents, they cared for the poor, providing a workhouse for them, binding out poor children and bastards, and returning wandering paupers to their proper parishes.⁸ (5) Furthermore, they registered births, marriages, and deaths, and appointed land processioners.⁹

After the Revolution the powers of the vestries were curtailed and finally abolished. After 1779 the vestry was deprived of all of its taxing power except the laying of the poor levy. However, it still had the power to levy a tax for the settlement of obligations incurred prior to January 1, 1777.¹⁰ It was not until the act of 1785 creating overseers of the poor that the parish vestry as a county office was abolished in Chesterfield. Since that time the vestry has served solely as a church agency.¹¹ Although tax-supported vestries existed in Chesterfield from 1749 to 1785, no records for this office can be found.

XXIV. LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

A health organization as a separate entity in the counties is of comparatively recent origin. Formerly certain health functions had been assigned to various county officials. The county court had the

4. Hen., II, pp. 44-45; Bruce, *op. cit.*, p. 80.

5. Hen., I, pp. 241-43; II, pp. 29, 52; III, p. 152; VI, pp. 89-90; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 131-32.

6. Hen., I, pp. 240-41; II, pp. 51-52; IV, pp. 244-45; VI, p. 90.

7. Hen., I, p. 240; II, p. 44; III, p. 152; VI, pp. 88-89; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 75-76, 92.

8. Hen., II, p. 44; VI, pp. 30-32, 475-77; Bruce, *op. cit.*, I, pp. 87-88.

9. Hen., I, p. 241; III, pp. 325-26.

10. Hen., X, pp. 197-98; Eckenrode, *op. cit.*, pp. 61-62.

11. Hen., XII, pp. 27-30; Eckenrode, *op. cit.*, pp. 114-15.

power to establish hospitals for contagious diseases in the county.¹ The overseers of the poor provided for the vaccination of the poor at the county expense.²

The first legislative provision establishing a local board of health in the counties was passed in 1900. With very few changes this act has remained the basis of the present county health code. It provided for a health board composed of the chairman of the board of supervisors, the county clerk, and three licensed physicians appointed biennially by the county court upon the recommendation of the medical society of the county. This board was empowered to take charge of the sanitary affairs of the county, the prevention and eradication of contagious diseases, the removal and quarantine of suspects, compulsory vaccination; with the consent of the board of supervisors, to fix the salary for the officers employed in discharging these duties; and to collect vital statistics as required by the state board of health. This was a mandatory act providing for the action of the state board in counties which did not comply.³

The executive officer of the local board was the secretary, a physician, elected from and by the local board for a term of two years. For the protection of public health he entered and inspected public and private premises for nuisances and contagious diseases; he collected and preserved vital statistics, as required by the state board of health; and he carried out the orders of the local board.⁴ However, no records for this board were found in Chesterfield County.

In 1910 there were two changes. The three medical members of the local boards were appointed by the state board of health instead of by the circuit court judge, who had replaced the county court judge in 1904, and the term of the local board and its executive officer was reduced to one year.⁵

In 1924 there was a legal change in the personnel of the local board of health. The three appointed members of the board merely had to be residents of the county. Only one was required to be a physician.⁶ In actual practice the state board usually appoints physicians for all of these offices in Chesterfield.

1. *Acts* 1831-32, p. 25.

2. *Code* 1873, p. 732.

3. *Acts* 1899-1900, p. 1250.

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 1250-51.

5. *Acts* 1904, p. 72; *Acts* 1910, p. 539.

6. *Acts* 1924, p. 144.

A complete county health unit is made up of a local board of health, a health officer, a sanitation officer, and a county nurse.⁷ Chesterfield has a local board, a sanitation officer, and a county nurse.

XXV. SANITATION OFFICER

Chesterfield was the first county in the state to establish a sanitation officer. Legally this officer was provided for by the revisors of the code in 1919: "The boards of supervisors . . . may adopt such rules and regulations . . . as may be necessary to secure the sanitary construction, alteration and inspection of plumbing and sewer connection and drains. . . . They may appoint an inspector at such salary as they may be willing to pay. . . . He shall inspect all such plumbing and sewer connections when thereto requested . . . or whenever he may have reason to believe that the public health is or will be affected. . . . Whenever he shall discover such defects he shall report the same to the local board of health, who shall cause such defects to be remedied in such manner as such . . . board of supervisors may prescribe."¹ Chesterfield has had a sanitation officer since 1919.

441. REPORTS, 1936—. 1 file box.

Reports of diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles, poliomyelitis, meningitis, typhoid cases; also health bulletins, and reports of field workers. Arr. by subjects. 11 x 13 x 28. Treas. bldg., san. off.

442. [BACTERIOLOGICAL REPORTS ON DRINKING WATER], 1931. 1 file box.

Reports on drinking water show name and address, date and bacteriological count. No index. 11 x 13 x 28. Treas. bldg., san. off.

443. COMPLAINTS, 1937—. 1 file box.

Shows complaint number, complainant's name and address, nature of complaint. Arr. by complainant. 4 x 6 x 17. Treas. bldg., san. off.

444. SANITARY NOTICES SERVED, 1937—. 1 file box.

Inspection reports on sanitary conditions show date, location, condition, remarks; sanitary notices. No index. 11 x 13 x 28. Treas. bldg., san. off.

7. "Report of the Commission on County Government to the General Assembly of Virginia" (Senate Document, no. 3), December 1931, in *Senate Journal and Documents*, 1932, p. 41 (paged separately).

1. *Code* 1919, sec. 1544.

445. [CARD RECORD OF INSPECTIONS], 1935—. 1 file box.
Tank and privy inspections. Arr. by name of owner. 4 x 6 x 17. Treas. bldg., san. off.

446. LETTERS, 1936—. 1 file box.
Correspondence in reference to sewage disposal, pipe lines, and water supplies. Arr. by name. 11 x 13 x 28. Treas. bldg., san. off.

447. MAP — CHESTERFIELD COUNTY — LOCATION OF DISPOSAL FIELD, 1937. 10 maps.
Health and sanitation maps showing location of disposal field. 5 blueprints, 5 hdr. Scale 1" equals 100'; ½" equals 1'. 24 x 26. Treas. bldg., san. off.

XXVI. COUNTY NURSE

A county nurse, supported by the Red Cross, county, state, and federal funds, was established in Chesterfield in 1924 under the authority of the Sheppard-Towner Act as adopted in Virginia.¹ From 1926 to the present time Chesterfield has been the only county in the state which entirely supports a county nurse on its own budget. At that time the state cut its appropriation to the counties in half.² The nurse is in charge of the tuberculosis cases and school health work in the county. Prior to 1936 she also did the welfare work.³

Child Health

448. [CARD RECORD OF PHYSICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN], 1936—. 1 file box.
Shows name of school, date, number enrolled, number inspected. Arr. by schools. 6 x 7 x 8. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

449. [SMALL POX VACCINATIONS], 1936—. 1 vol.
Shows name of school, vaccination date, name of teacher, pupils' names, date, place, charges, remarks. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 50 pp. 10 x 7 x ½. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

450. SCHOOL CLINICS — CLINICAL MATERIALS (School Clinics Completed Commitment Papers), 1928—. 2 file boxes.
Lists of clinical materials such as vaccines and commitment papers to sanatoriums. Arr. alph. by name of patient. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

1. *U. S. Statutes at Large* 1921-23, XLII, pt. 1, pp. 224-26; *Acts* 1922, p. 155.
2. State Board of Health; Miss Spivey, County Nurse of Chesterfield.
3. See County Superintendent Public Welfare.

County Superintendent of Roads

(451-456)

451. CRIPPLED CHILDREN'S CLINICAL CASES, undated. 1 file box. Clinical case histories of crippled children showing name, parents' names, address, age, deformity, remarks. Arr. alph. by name of patient. 13 x 11 x 5. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

452. CHESTERFIELD COUNTY DENTAL CLINIC, 1930-32. 2 vols. Shows name of school, date, pupil's name, kind of fillings, number of extractions, whether clean or scale. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 200 pp. 10 x 8 x 3/4. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

Family Cases

453. [FAMILY REPORT], undated. 1 file box. Shows name and address, colored or white, family number. Arr. by name of family. 4 x 5 x 12. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

454. FAMILY CASE CARDS, undated. 2 file boxes (A-M, M-Z). County health aid cards to private families show name, address, number in family, visits, remarks. Arr. alph. by name of family. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

455. REPORTS—CAMP BAKER TUBERCULOSIS LETTERS, undated. 1 file box. General correspondence in reference to Camp Baker—administrative and financial reports. Arr. alph. by name of correspondent. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

456. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1933—. 1 file box. Correspondence concerning death certificates, sanatoriums, reemployment service, mothers' aid. Arr. by subject. 11 x 13 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. n. off.

XXVII. COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF ROADS

The controlling factors in roads have been the county court, the township board, the board of supervisors, and the state highway commission.

From the establishment of Chesterfield County in 1749 until 1869, the colonial system of working the roads by compulsory road service of male citizens was in effect although a road levy was permitted in 1835. During this time the county court controlled county roads. It had the power to direct the building of new roads and to alter old ones. In order to supervise better the roads, this court divided them into road precincts. The court acted through its appointees—road surveyors and viewers, entry 461. A surveyor was appointed for every precinct

to superintend the roads and keep them cleared and in good condition. He was compelled to serve in this capacity until another was appointed by the court. The viewers reported to the court the conveniences and inconveniences of proposed road or road alterations.¹

In 1835 the county court was permitted to appoint annually from two to five road commissioners to replace the surveyor and viewers. These commissioners examined roads, investigated proposed routes, entry 458, drafted maps, and reported to the county court. They procured the services of a surveyor when necessary.²

By the constitution of 1869 the township board became the controlling road factor. This constitution inaugurated new temporary township road officers known as the overseers of roads. Each township was divided into one or more road districts. In each road district there was elected annually an overseer of roads who kept the roads in repair at the public expense. This overseer replaced the road surveyor. Although the colonial system of road service was continued, roads were financed principally by a compulsory road tax levied by the township board. The tax was collected by the overseers of roads who annually sent a financial report to the board.³ The commissioner of roads was retained as an elective officer. There was one for each township. The commissioner collected *special* road levies; sent reports of the road work and recommendations to the township board; acted as viewer at the order of the court.⁴

In 1875 the township road officers were abolished along with the other township officers. This law reenacted the colonial system of working the roads by compulsory road service of male citizens and repealed the method of paying for road upkeep by levies. Again the county court became the controlling factor in roads. Precinct surveyors and viewers of roads were also reestablished.⁵

In 1885 the board of supervisors became the controlling factor in county roads. Replacing the county court as an appointing agent, this board appointed a road surveyor every two years for each election district to superintend roads. The board levied the now reestablished road tax. Each supervisor individually inspected the roads in his magisterial district.⁶

1. Hen., VI, pp. 64-65; XII, pp. 174-76; *Acts* 1834-35, p. 62.

2. *Acts* 1834-35, pp. 56-57, 68.

3. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, sec. 4; *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 597-99.

4. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 80, 600-5.

5. *Acts* 1874-75, pp. 135, 177, 180-81, 187.

6. *Acts* 1883-84, pp. 459-61, 464.

In order to unify the road system within the county and to put roads in trained hands, a special legislative act was passed in 1903 for Chesterfield, authorizing the board of supervisors to appoint annually a county superintendent of roads as well as an advisory road board. The county superintendent together with the advisory road member and the supervisor of each magisterial district constituted a district road board for the control of roads.⁷

The act of 1928 was probably an attempt to inaugurate a uniform county road code for the entire state. It abolished the county and district road superintendents. The board of supervisors, still the controlling agents, had the power to appoint viewers; to levy county and district road taxes; to carry on the road work through a county engineer, entry 463, a county manager, or *per se*.⁸ Chesterfield took the latter course.

In 1932 a more uniform system of county roads was assured by state control. Prior to this, the state optionally offered free advice to the counties through its engineer.⁹ By this act the state highway department through the state highway commissioner replaced the board of supervisors in practically all but its advisory capacity. This act became immediately effective in Chesterfield. The board of supervisors is no longer permitted to levy any county or district taxes for the construction of roads. Roads are now financed in the county by the county quota from the motor vehicle fuel tax.¹⁰

A few powers still remain in the hands of the board of supervisors. It meets with the representatives of the state highway commissioner to discuss road problems and continues to levy a county or district tax to pay off road indebtedness.¹¹

Road Records

457. [ROADS AND BRIDGES], 1929-32. 2 vols. Discontinued: roads taken over by state.

Shows date, roads, construction, maintenance, equipment. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 300 pp. 13 x 16 x 1¼. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

458. ROAD BOOK, 1875-1918. 1 vol. (1).

Roads proposed by supervisor's orders, road plats and blueprints, report of commissioners to lay off roads. Shows number of road precincts, name of

7. *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 343-44.

8. *Acts* 1928, pp. 569, 574-75, 583-86, 589.

9. *Acts* 1906, p. 72; *Acts* 1928, p. 581.

10. *Acts* 1932, pp. 872-74.

11. *Ibid.*, pp. 873-76.

Advisory Road Board

(459-463)

district, description of road, name of surveyor, date of appointment, hands required from what farm, when notified, when resigned. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 132 pp. 16 x 12 x 2½. Clk off., north rm.

459. INDEX TO ROAD BOOK FROM JUNE COURT, 1875. 1 vol.

No true index but a list of road precincts and officers set up by June court under the authority of *Acts* 1874-75, chapter 181. Arr. by magisterial districts: Bermuda, Clover Hill, Dale, Manchester, Matoaca, Midlothian. Hdw. 25 pp. 17 x 11 x ¼. Clk. off., north rm.

460. MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT, ROAD DISTRICTS, ROAD PETITIONS, AND FINAL DECREES, 1874, 1876-78. 4 bundles in a trunk. Inaccessible.

Magisterial and road districts, road petitions, and final decrees. Arr. chron. Trunk, 32 x 34 x 22; bundle, 10 x 3½ x 4. Clk. off., north rm.

461. [ROAD REPORTS], 1777-1802, 1819, 1832, 1835, 1840. 1 drawer.

Report relative to Manchester Turnpike, road petitions, viewers' reports, road orders, road and bridge labor, clerk's report to commissioner of game and inland fisheries about bounties paid for scalps. No index. 8 x 20 x 16. Clk. off., west rm.

For related records, see entry 8.

Financial Records

462. JOURNAL (Accounts of E. N. Perdue, Superintendent of Roads of Chesterfield County, Virginia), 1919-28. 2 vols. No title, 1923-28.

In these accounts the road superintendent is charged with the sums advanced and credited with the amount spent for roads. Shows expenditures and collections in various districts, county levy, county road maintenance, and general road fund. No index. Hdw. on hdr. forms. 117 pp. 14 x 11 x 1. Clk. off., center rm.

463. [CHECK STUBS—COUNTY ROAD ENGINEERS], 1918-24, 1928-32. 9 vols. Discontinued: roads taken over by state.

Shows number, date to whom payable, balance, name, amount, total balance. Arr. chron. Hdw. on printed forms. 150 pp. 10 x 13 x 1. Sch. bd. off., west rm.

XXVIII. ADVISORY ROAD BOARD

The advisory road board was a temporary board, created by a legislative act for Chesterfield County. A special act, passed April 2, 1902, authorized the board of supervisors of Chesterfield to create a

general road fund and provide for the permanent improvement of their roads.¹ On May 14, 1903, this special act was amended to authorize the creation of an advisory road board and the appointment of a county superintendent of roads.²

The advisory road board was made up of one member from each magisterial district appointed by the county court for a term of one year. After July 1, 1903, the appointments were made by the circuit court.

This board had the power "to designate the roads in each district to be improved . . . and specify the character of improvement." The board of supervisors acted upon these recommendations. To control district roads, the advisory road board member and the board of supervisors' member from each magisterial district, with the county superintendent of roads, formed a district road board.³

Although the records end in 1909, the board was not legally terminated until March 14, 1924.⁴

464. [MINUTES OF COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD], 1903-9. 1 vol. Minutes of advisory board meetings concerning roads. Arr. chron. Hdw. 77 pp. 13 x 8 x 1/4. Clk. off., north rm.

XXIX. COUNTY SURVEYOR

The office of county surveyor, although a very old one in Virginia, has functionally changed very little up to the present time. The greatest changes have been in the duration of the term and the method of filling this office. It was appointive, then elective, and again appointive.

In the seventeenth century the surveyor of the county was appointed by the surveyor-general of the colony. Together they shared the profits, oftentimes giving a portion thereof for the financial support of William and Mary College.⁵ After the Revolutionary War he was appointed by the governor upon the recommendation of the county court and upon being certified competent by the president and professors of William and Mary College. His term of office was during

1. *Acts* 1901-2, p. 733; a general maintenance road fund was created for Chesterfield in 1918, *Acts* 1918, p. 335.
2. See County Superintendent of Roads.
3. *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 343-44.
4. *Acts* 1924, p. 264.
5. P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, I, p. 387.

good behavior.⁶ In 1816 the college was displaced as the examining agent by two commissioned surveyors of adjoining counties.⁷ The surveyor's term was definitely set at seven years in 1831.⁸

The county surveyor became a constitutional and elective officer with a term of six years in 1851.⁹ By a later act his term was reduced to three years.¹⁰

In 1875 this office again became appointive for a term of four years and has thus remained until the present time. The judge of the county court appointed the county surveyor upon the recommendation of the board of supervisors. With the abolition of the county court in 1904, the judge of the circuit court became the appointing agent.¹¹

The powers of the county surveyor have changed very little since the origin of the office. The surveyor makes a survey for the purchaser of any waste or unappropriated land or any land which has reverted to the state for the non-payment of taxes;¹² in new counties, he marks the boundaries, makes plats, attests copies of all entries for lands;¹³ he surveys all delinquent land sold and not redeemed, delivering a plat and certificate to the court;¹⁴ and he makes plats of any land upon a court order.¹⁵

The county surveyor, who has always been a fee officer, keeps a plat book and a fee book.¹⁶ To his employer the surveyor delivers a plat and certificate of the land surveyed. To the county clerk he delivers annually a copy of each entry, plat, and certificate for filing and preservation.¹⁷

465. PLAT BOOK, 1871—. 7 vols. (1-7).

Maps of various parts of the county—Fairview, Riverside Park, Manchester, Forest Hill, Westover Hills. Also contains maps of the Tri-State Realty Company and property to be conveyed to the Virginia Electric and Power

6. Hen., XI, pp. 352-53.

7. *Acts* 1816, p. 67.

8. *Acts* 1830-31, p. 87.

9. *Const.* 1851, art. vi, sec. 30; *Acts* 1852, p. 64.

10. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 265-66.

11. *Acts* 1874-75, p. 133; *Const.* 1902, art. vii, secs. 110, 112; *Acts* 1902-3-4, pp. 506, 742.

12. Hen., X, p. 52; *Code* 1919, secs. 418, 420, 422.

13. Hen., XII, p. 709; *Acts* 1844-45, p. 37; *Code* 1919, secs. 2680-81.

14. *Acts* 1831-32, p. 65; *Code* 1919, secs. 2480-81.

15. *Code* 1849, p. 478; *Code* 1919, sec. 2842.

16. Hen., I, pp. 125, 335, 452; V, pp. 340-42; XI, pp. 355-56; *Code* 1919, secs. 439, 3479, 3494.

17. Hen., I, pp. 335, 452; XI, p. 356; *Code* 1919, secs. 438, 443.

County Agricultural Agent

(466-469)

Company in the Appomattox Basin. Vols. 1-5 indexed by owner; vol. 7 indexed by owner and name of estate; vol. 6 not indexed. Pencil maps, pen and ink maps, crayon colored maps, blueprints, photostats. Aver. 193 pp. 23 x 18 x 2. Clk. off., north rm.

466. MAP—[LAND PLATS], not dated. 28 rolls.

Duplicates of land plats that have been recorded in plat book. Blueprint. No scale. 28 x 4. Treas. bldg., comm. rev. off.

XXX. COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT

The office of county agricultural agent was established in Chesterfield in 1914 upon the approval by the general assembly of the Smith-Lever Act.¹ The county agent is appointed annually by the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute in coöperation with the United States Department of Agriculture and local board of supervisors. The same agent is reappointed from year to year as long as he renders satisfactory service.

Under the direction of the extension department of the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute, the county agent instructs farmers in improved methods of agriculture, horticulture, and stock-raising. He conducts demonstrations and advises farmers on all technical agricultural subjects and improved agricultural methods. He supervises farm demonstration clubs for boys.

The work of the county agricultural agent is supported by federal, state, and local funds.

467. COUNTY AGENT'S EXTENSION WORK, 1927—. 3 file boxes. Contains plans of work programs for 4-H (Head, Hands, Heart, Health) Clubs, farmers' coöperative association, advisory council; weekly, monthly, and annual reports. Arr. by subject. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. agt. off.

468. [LOANS], 1931—. 4 file boxes (Tobacco, Corn-Hogs, Peanuts, Wheat).

County crop loans on tobacco, cotton, corn, hogs, and wheat show name of party, date, amount, and description. Each file arr. alph. by name and subject. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. agt. off.

469. SOIL CONSERVATION, 1936—. 5 file boxes.

Work on the soil conservation program shows name and address, acreages, description of fertilizer, application for loan, and applicant's signature. Arr.

1. *U. S. Statutes at Large*, 1913-15, XXXVIII, pt. 1, pp. 372-74; *Acts* 1914, pp. 710-12.

by district and alph. by name of applicant. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. agt. off.

470. FARM PRODUCE CONTRACTS, 1935. 4 file boxes.

Include agricultural adjustment administration contracts for tobacco, corn, hog, peanut, wheat, and cotton showing name of producer, location of farm, date and conditions of contract, signature of producer and official. Arr. alph. by name and subject. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. agt. off.

471. CORRESPONDENCE, 1928—. 4 file boxes. No title, 1928-35.

Original letters and agricultural agent's copies of replies. Arr. by subject. 13 x 11 x 25. Treas. bldg., co. agt. off.

XXXI. HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

Like the county agricultural agent, the office of home demonstration agent was authorized under the Smith-Lever Act in 1914,¹ but was not established in Chesterfield until 1927. She is appointed in the same way as the county agent and likewise works through the extension division of the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute. She conducts home demonstrations of model methods of housekeeping and organizes the girls' division of the 4-H (Head, Hands, Heart, Health) Club.

472. [REPORT OF COUNTY EXTENSION WORKERS], 1927—. 3 file drawers.

Showing worker's name, address, date, nature of work; number of days in office, days in field, meetings held, farms and houses visited. Arr. alph. by worker. Hdw. on printed forms. 300 pp. 12 x 23 x 13. Treas. bldg., home dem. agt. off.

473. MISCELLANEOUS DEMONSTRATIONS, 1927—. 1 file drawer.

Contains plans of the work such as meetings, demonstrations on food, health, and the care of children. Arr. alph. by subject. Hdw. and printed. 275 pp. 12 x 25 x 13. Treas. bldg., home dem. agt. off.

474. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE, 1927—. 3 file drawers.

Shows correspondence with the club women, state extension division and others in connection with the home economics and agricultural program. Arr. alph. by correspondent. Hdw. and typed. 400 pp. 12 x 25 x 13. Treas. bldg., home dem. agt. off.

1. *U. S. Statutes at Large* 1913-15, XXXVIII, pt. 1, pp. 372-74; *Acts* 1914, pp. 710-12.

XXXII. TOWNSHIPS

Although Virginia counties had been divided into various sorts of precincts, parishes, and districts from colonial days, there was not, prior to 1869, a district office of record save that of the commissioners of revenue. However, the constitution of that date set up an elaborate township organization. Chesterfield was divided into seven townships—Bermuda, Chester, Matoaca, Clover Hill, Midlothian, Manchester, Dale—in each of which was elected annually one supervisor, one township clerk, one assessor, one collector, one commissioner of the roads, and one overseer of the poor. Furthermore, three justices of the peace and three constables were elected for each township for three year terms so arranged that one officer was elected annually.¹ Legislation further elaborated the structure by providing for a township board of supervisors and township clerk. The duties of the former were quite similar to those of the county board of supervisors save that the word township was substituted for county. The latter, as *ex-officio* the township treasurer, supervised and settled the accounts between the township and the collector and the overseer of the poor.² The principal aims of this elaborate structure appear to have been the better upkeep of roads, their maintenance by taxes instead of forced labor, and the decentralization of the collection and assessment of taxes. Whatever its purposes, the township form of government was abolished, before it had an opportunity to gain much headway.³ The functions of the township assessors were returned to the county commissioners of revenue and those of the collectors to the county treasurer, and the system for the upkeep of roads reverted to the ante-bellum methods for the most part. All the personal property books, papers, and documents of the township board and the township clerk were ordered deposited with the county clerk.⁴ However, Midlothian Township continued its minute book until the final settlement of its business in 1881.

475. MINUTES OF BOARD OF TOWNSHIP, 1870-81. 5 vols. (Matoaca, 1870-75; Manchester, 1870-73; Midlothian, 1870-81; Dale, 1870-71). Title varies: Records—Bermuda Township, 1871-78.

Minutes of the Bermuda, Dale, Manchester, Midlothian, Matoaca township

1. *Const.* 1869, art. vii, secs. 2-4; *Acts* 1869-70, p. 80; *Acts* 1870-71, p. 416.

2. *Acts* 1869-70, pp. 279-81.

3. *Acts* 1872-73, pp. 274-77; *Acts* 1874, pp. 95-98, 208-12, 225-26; *Acts* 1874-75, p. 56.

4. *Acts* 1874-75, pp. 180-81, 186, 215-16, 354.

boards show organization, time and place of meeting, elections of town officers, town levies. No index. Hdw. Aver. 75 pp. 18 x 12 x 2½. Clk. off., north rm.

476. TOWNSHIP WARRANTS, 1875. 1 bundle in a trunk.

Shows accounts, receipts, order of clerk on treasurer of township board. No index. Trunk 32 x 34 x 22; bundle 10 x 3½ x 4. Clk. off., north rm.

477. ACCOUNTS MIDLOTHIAN TOWNSHIP, 1871-75. 1 vol.

Itemized statement of revenue and expenses of Midlothian township. No index. Hdw. 41 pp. 14 x 9 x 1. Clk. off., north rm.

XXXIII. MILITIA

The militia was already organized on a county basis when Chesterfield was established in 1749.¹ Company officers had to be residents of the county. The county lieutenant had to list all male persons between the ages of eighteen and sixty. The captains mustered their own companies every three months; the lieutenants mustered all the companies in the county semi-annually. Every captain was required to make a list of all persons upon his muster rolls and those who did not appear when summoned to musters. The latter list was delivered to the next court martial. The court martial was comprised of the field officers of every county, meeting at the courthouse the first fair day after a general muster, to try violators, assess fines, and accept or exempt prospective militiamen. These military courts appointed clerks to keep a register of their proceedings and to deliver orders to the sheriff for the collection of all militia fines.²

The state abolished the county militia system in 1792 in order to put into effect the congressional act of the same year designed "to provide for the national defense by establishing an uniform militia throughout the United States."³ Obviously to enforce the 1792 act, another act was passed in 1793: "That the several county . . . courts, shall, . . . on or before their respective courts, to be held in the month of May next, recommend to the governor and council the officers necessary to compleat the regiments, battalions and companies within their respective jurisdictions, . . . recommending the said officers according to their grades and seniority within their respective

1. P. A. Bruce, *Institutional History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, II, pp. 9, 11, 18; Hen., III, p. 335; IV, p. 118; V, p. 16.

2. Hen., VI, pp. 530-35; VII, pp. 96-101; IX, pp. 270-72; XI, pp. 477-78; XII, pp. 10-11, 235.

3. U. S. *Statutes at Large*, I, p. 271; Hen., XIII, p. 340.

companies.”⁴ By these acts the militia as a county unit was abolished and the state militia became a unit of the national guard. However, militia fines are still collected by the sheriff.⁵

478. CHESTERFIELD SUPPLEMENT EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, 1780-ca.1792. 1 vol.

Journal, at Chesterfield House, of troops enlisted since 1780, shows name, age, trade, state or county, town or county, hair, eyes, complexion, enlisted for what term. No index. Hdw. 90 pp. 12½ x 7½ x ¾. V. S. L., archives reading-rm.

APPENDIX

479. [LAWYERS' FILE], ca. 1896-1936. 132 file boxes.

Shows judgments and delinquent taxes. Taxes date back to 1917; judgments to ca. 1896. Entire Kardex cabinet arr. alph. by name of delinquent. Typed. ½ x 6 x 23. Clk. off., north rm.

480. RESTRICTION BOOK, 1925-36. 1 vol.

Shows restriction upon building lots in various residential sections such as Eloise Place, Forest Hill, Powhatan Heights, Westover Hills, stating size of lot, price of homes, kind of fences, and distance of home from street. This book is the property of the Lawyer's Title Insurance Corporation. Indexed by subject. Typed. 22 pp. 14 x 9 x ½. Clk. off., north rm.

481. REPORT OF C. P. E. BURGWIN, CIVIL ENGINEER, ON THE NATURAL ADVANTAGES AND WATER POWER FACILITIES OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER AND THE COUNTY OF CHESTERFIELD WITH ACCOMPANYING MAPS, 1888. 9 vols.

The volumes contain maps of James River and engineer's reports. No index. Printed copies. 8 pp. 9 x 5½ x ¼. Clk. off., north rm.

482. ETTRICK SEWER AND WATER SYSTEM, 1908. 1 file box.

All papers pertaining to the Ettrick sewer and water system. No index. 11 x 5 x 25. Clk. off., north rm.

483. [ORGANIZATION OF] CONFEDERATE [SOLDIERS] ASSOCIATION, 1897. 1 vol.

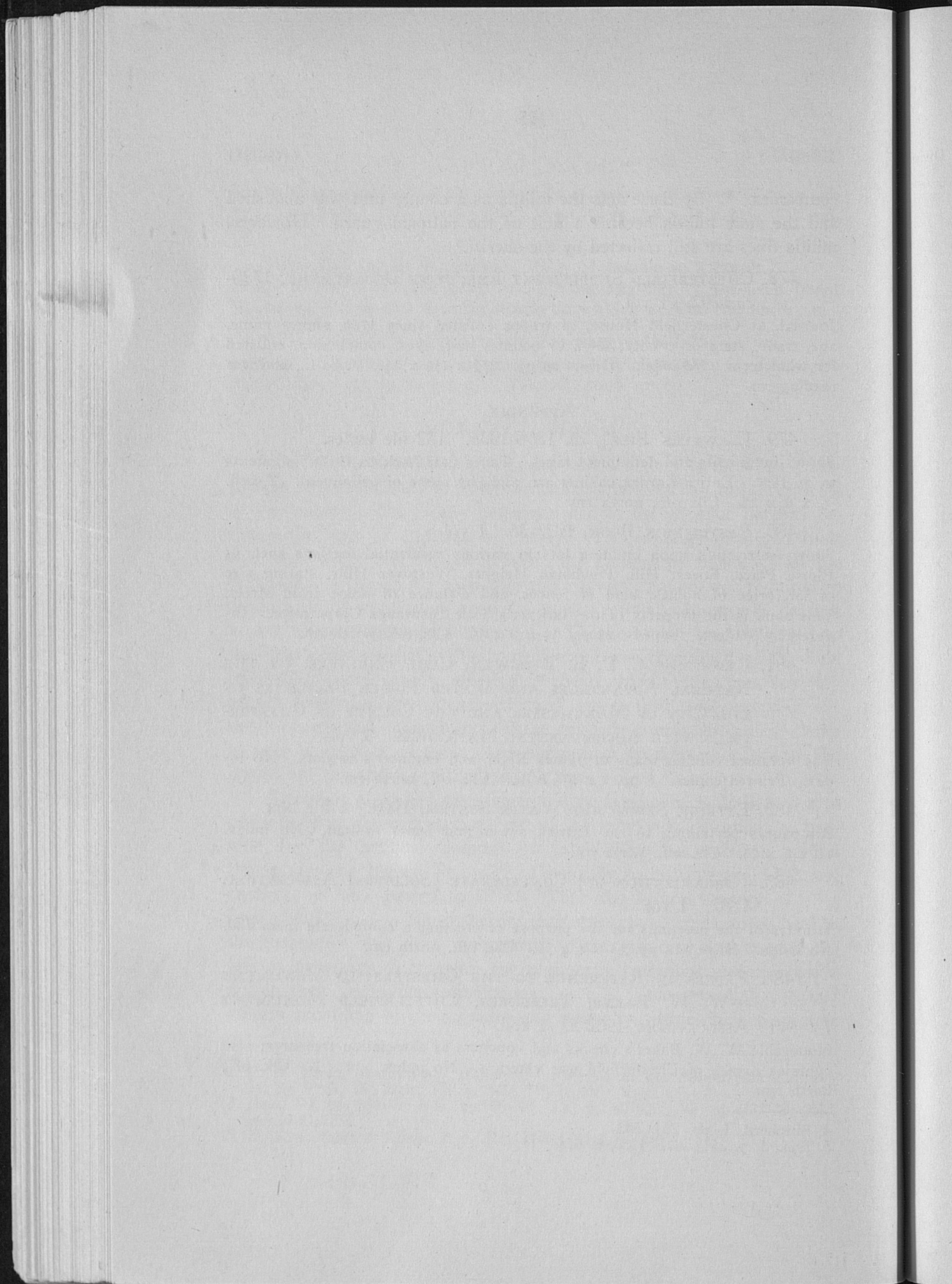
Minutes of the meetings for the purpose of erecting a confederate memorial. No index. Hdw. 23 pp. 13 x 8 x ½. Clk. off., north rm.

484. PAPERS IN REFERENCE TO THE CHESTERFIELD MONUMENT —W. W. BAKER, TREASURER, CHESTERFIELD MONUMENT ASSOCIATION, 1902-5. 1 roll.

Honorable W. W. Baker's checks and vouchers as association treasurer; also contains names of Chesterfield war veterans. No index. 10 x 3. Clk. off., north rm.

4. Shepherd, I, pp. 203, 343.

5. *Ibid.*, I, p. 351; *Acts* 1930, p. 958.



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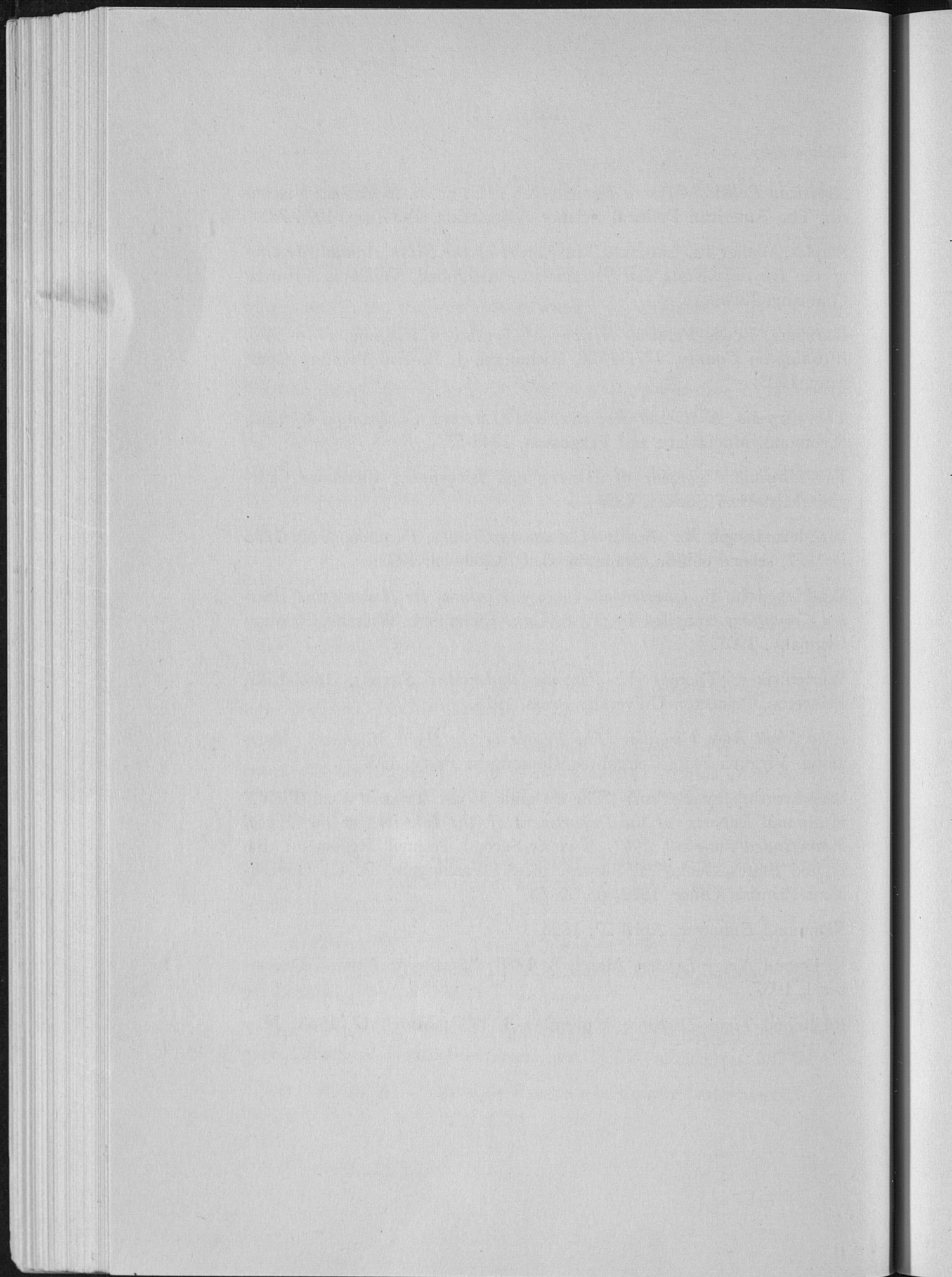
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